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HOME OF THE HIGHLAND STORM

# The Highlander

Thursday **September 22 2016** | Issue 255

**INSIDE: TERRY FOX RUN - SEE PAGE 26**

**FREE**



## Come hike with us

Barrie Martin, organizer of Hike Haliburton, tests out his walking boots in preparation for today's start of the biggest hiking festival in Canada. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

## Millions needed for Minden arena

**Town considers borrowing the money**

By Lisa Gervais

The first public meeting on renewal options for Minden's S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena was held Monday with sports and recreation groups getting a detailed look at plans that could see as little as \$3 million and as much as \$12 million spent on the facility.

Despite the high stakes, only a handful of residents attended the meeting, most representing the Highland Storm Minor Hockey Association.

To date, the task force struck by council to investigate options for the 44-year-old building has come up with three options. Option A is to repair the existing facility at an estimated cost of \$3 million. Option B is renovating the facility with design and amenity enhancements, including sports, gym, recreation and fitness rooms, at a cost of about \$6.5 million. And, option C is a new facility at \$10-\$12 million.

None of the options includes a pool.

While the task force will ultimately make a recommendation to council, which will then choose, it was apparent at the meeting that council is leaning towards the middle way. The \$6.5m retrofit plan includes borrowing money if no new federal or provincial government infrastructure grants come forward.

When one of the Storm contingent said, "So C as a possibility isn't really a possibility," director of community services Mark Coleman said the concern with that option is, "where is the money available."

CAO/treasurer Lorrie Blanchard asked if the attendees would be willing to pay increased user fees. They said individuals would not, but associations would.

There was also talk of a special levy and community fundraising.

In his presentation, Coleman provided capital cost estimates only for option B.

It calls for new change rooms, office space and a fitness addition of \$2 million; a new \$1.2 million ice plant system; \$800,000 for arena flooring, boards and glass; \$400,000 to resurface the parking lot; \$250,000 to redo the roof; \$100,000 for new walls; another \$100,000 for an accessible elevator; \$60,000 for flashing and insulation; \$50,000 for a ventilation upgrade; \$40,000 for LED lighting; and a 20 per cent contingency of \$1 million. Engineering and architectural design, contract administration and inspection bring the total to \$6.5 million.

Coleman indicated the \$3 million fix option would just be a short-term solution and the township does not know if and where it would find money for a new facility as presented in option C.

However he said option B was not without challenges. He noted rising OPP costs, the availability of infrastructure funding, the township's limited number of taxpayers with equally limited growth, and tax implications for long-term debt. He said the replacement would last only 30 years and than the community would be right back where it started.

See "Replacement" on page 2

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# Highlander news

## Replacement would last only 30 years under option B

Continued from page 1

The township wants to hear more from residents. There will be another meeting

on Oct. 3 and people can fill out a survey on the township's website until Oct. 11.

"We really do want your thoughts on it," Reeve Brent Devolin said. So far,

184 surveys have been received. Asked about the options, 39 per cent want a new facility, 35 per cent a renovation and 26 per cent a repair.

Coleman said the timeline could see option B completed by January 2019.

The survey can be found on the township's website [mindenhill.ca](http://mindenhill.ca).

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Clint Eastwood's <b>Sully</b> PG Tom Hanks	7:15	6:15 & 8:15
Oliver Stone's <b>Snowden</b> Joseph Gordon-Levitt 14A	7:30	6:00 & 8:35
<b>Bridget Jones's Baby</b> Rene Zellweger 14A	7:45	6:45 & 9:10
<b>The Magnificent 7</b> Denzel Washington 14A	8:00	6:30 & 9:05

**Coming Next:**  
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From left, Pinestone Resort owners Vince and Ravi Aurora and John Teljeur. *File photo.*

## Teljeur no longer GM of Pinestone Former director of sales takes over

By Alex Coop

John Teljeur is no longer the general manager of the Pinestone Resort and Conference Centre, a position he's held since last May.

Executive director of operations for the Aurora Hotel Group (which owns the Pinestone), Matthew Phillips, told *The Highlander* via a statement yesterday that Pinestone "is currently undergoing a restructuring of its operations in an effort to improve the overall situation of the resort."

The resort's former director of sales, Cindy Makepeace, has assumed the position of interim general manager.

Phillips added in the statement that "we realize that these changes are necessary to improve both the resort

operations as well as the economic situation in both of our wonderful communities."

Pressed for the nature of Teljeur's departure, Phillips' statement reads, "Understandably, we as a company would never speak on the private employment matters of any of our associates, past or present."

"However, it is now public knowledge, not private, that we are currently in discussions and meetings with John in regards to his potential future role within the Aurora Hotel Group."

A Facebook post from Township of Minden Hills Ward 1 Coun. Lisa Schell, which was uploaded to her personal and township Facebook page earlier this week, urged members of the community to email the resort's owners to have Teljeur reinstated as the general manager. The post has since been taken down.

Phillips declined to publicly comment on Schell's post.

However, he said as an example of Pinestone's "continued working relationship, John was gracious enough to even pass on a sales lead that was sent to him personally on Monday."

He added that Teljeur had endorsed the succession plan. He quoted a text from Teljeur to Makepeace that reads: "You are a great choice to take things on and I understand why you were chosen."

*The Highlander* reached out to Teljeur multiple times, but received no response.

The Auroras purchased Pinestone a year ago. In March, they announced plans to build a plaza with a gas station, adjacent to County Road 21, but construction has not yet started.

They also bought the historic Wigamog Inn in the spring.

Their portfolio includes two other hotels, one in Brantford and the other in Huntsville.

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# Highlander news



Superintendent Dianna Scates delivers some good news about enrollment numbers.

## ASES gets extra teacher

By Mark Arike

A rise in enrollment means more jobs for teachers across the Trillium Lakelands District School Board.

An additional 9.6 elementary school teachers are being hired, including 1.2 teachers at Archie Stouffer Elementary School (ASES) in Minden.

"Our early enrollment report is one of a very good news story," said Dianna Scates, superintendent of employee services, during a committee-of-the-whole meeting on Sept. 13 at the Haliburton County Education Centre.

The fraction of a full teacher represents part-time help for preparation coverage.

There are 338 more students across the board's 41 elementary schools than projected, said Scates.

Some schools are as high as 40 students above while others are 11 below.

High schools are also up by 201 students, however that typically levels out after the first semester when a portion of students don't return for the second semester.

Of those hired, 8.1 were "redundant teachers" who weren't placed in schools at the beginning of the year.

"We have every confidence that we'll be able to make contact with those teachers and have them placed by the end of this week [last week]," Scates said.

The addition at ASES will be an intermediate teacher.

Since three full-day kindergarten classrooms were added, three designated early childhood educators will also be placed in the system.

## Scott hammers Hydro

By Lisa Gervais

Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott is again hammering the provincial Liberals over the high cost of Hydro in her riding.

On the final day of Question Period last week, Scott blatantly called out the Wynne government on the current state of Hydro affairs.

"This riding is decimated by the countless failures to supply affordable energy to Ontarians by the Wynne government. The slight-of-hand actions in the Throne Speech have fooled no one. These are real people suffering real hardships," Scott said.

She asked how 36 cents a day, the cost on average proposed in the Wynne government's hydro Band-Aid, would help people on the verge of defaulting; in arrears; on load limiters; paying jacked-up rural delivery costs; and stray voltage issues literally killing off farms and businesses closing.

"The answer is simple," Scott said. "The best plan for Ontarians is to defeat the Wynne government. People have lost all confidence that they are capable of handling the electricity system in this province."

Also last week Scott said she was disappointed but not shocked by the lack of sincerity and effort in the Speech from the Throne.

"First, the timing is more than suspect. The Wynne government loses a member in a by-election to the PCs 12 days ago. Queen's Park was set to resume and all of a sudden Kathleen Wynne pulls the plug ... and now there's a new direction."

And yet she said there is no new direction. "The Speech from the Throne does nothing to improve the lives of people, especially in Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock."

She said electricity costs continue to devastate households, forcing people to choose between feeding their families and heating their homes. It's especially harsh in rural areas with the skyrocketing cost of delivery.

"Clearly the Wynne government is in panic mode to think anyone will fall for this magic beans trick. People are now living in energy poverty - energy poverty that this government has created. Suggesting that people will feel relief with some sort of rebate to their astronomical bills is nothing more than a fairy tale," Scott said.

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# Editorial opinion

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## The Highlander's Mission

To tell the story of  
Haliburton County each week

To be a source of information and inspiration  
through stories and ideas

To report on issues, people and events  
important to the community

To reflect and promote pride in the culture,  
people and landscape of The Highlands

To encourage Highlanders to believe in  
themselves, in our community, and in their  
power to make our place in the  
world better every day.

## Have your say on arena options

I was disappointed that more stakeholders didn't come out for Monday night's meeting on the future of the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena.

Time is already running out for public input and we got the feeling at the meeting that the task force, which contains council members, already has its mind made up as to what is going to happen.

Reeve Brent Devolin and councilors Ron Nesbitt and Lisa Schell sit on the task force along with CAO/treasurer Lorrie Blanchard and director of community services Mark Coleman. That is five municipal employees or politicians, with only three members of the general public (chair Peter Oyler, Jim Garbutt and Dwight Thomas) remaining.

So, there is a very real chance that what the task force recommends, council will follow.

The whole mess began when an outside inspector deemed the arena building to be in bad shape, as in \$2.4 million in bad shape. It was built in 1972 so stands at 44 years old.

The task force has since reviewed the engineer's work, visited a few recently built and renovated arenas, and looked into energy efficiency. They've come up with three options. There is the \$3 million fix, the \$6.5 million fix and renovate and the \$10-12 million start from scratch.

The task force has looked at financial implications and is holding two meetings as well as circulating a survey.

It's clear they like option B. It was

the only one presented with capital cost estimates and a break-down of capital costs. It is also clear that they are thinking about borrowing money. The D word, as in debentures, is being thrown around. Simply put, the D word is debt. Property tax implications of borrowing from \$2.5 million to \$4 million were presented at the meeting. Coleman at the meeting, and Devolin, at other times, have boasted how Minden Hills is virtually debt-free but should start borrowing since the province looks more favourably on councils that borrow money.

There is a lot of talk about debenturing the estimated \$2 million the township needs for the new fire hall, too. That could see the township improve its showing to the province to the tune of many millions of dollars by year's end.

Some survey results were also shared. Some back what the township seems to want to do. Some put the whole exercise in question.

For example, a full 50 per cent of survey respondents said they had never visited or used the arena, or used it less than once a month.

People were asked to indicate their level of preference for particular facilities, one being most interested and five being the least interested. Ninety-two people were most interested in a pool, followed by 65 people interested in an ice surface.

However talk of a pool was extremely limited at the meeting, with it being pointed out that there is a countywide group

working on getting a pool.

The demographics are interesting, too. The average age of people is 53.5, well above the provincial average of 40.4. Are these folks going to play hockey and ice skate? Maybe. Maybe not.

The number of children was actually down 11 per cent between 2006 and 2011, with the future 1235 shared at the meeting. Incidentally, the average family income is just \$53,000, \$16,000 below the provincial average.

Sixty-eight per cent of people said they would support municipal tax dollars going to fund the project. However, they were not asked if they supported the township borrowing money for it and going into debt with the accompanying tax implications.

Residents and ratepayers of Minden Hills have to ask themselves two things. One, how does an arena factor into your future plans? Would you rather see an arena fix-up and more resources put into, say a pool, gym or fitness centre? Two, are you happy to have the council borrow millions of dollars you will help them pay off over 25 to 30 years.

It's not too late to have your say. Turn up at the meeting on Oct. 3 and fill out the survey.



By Lisa Gervais

## Eternal optimism

From the outside looking in, it just appears to be a nothing story. Mere filler for a local paper most times in dire need of some filler. It's the typical shot of a business owner passing over the keys to the new owner. On the one hand the former owner of the business in question looks happy, possibly even relieved, and on the other, the new owner is noticeably confident, perhaps blissfully unaware of what may lay ahead.

Although you might not think twice about it, it's a very telling prototypical photograph for a rural area like Haliburton County. It exudes passion, ambition and an unknown percentage of ignorance towards what the owner might be facing. This isn't to say that the new owner hasn't done his or her research. Just that new business owners are a lot like new brides or grooms in that no one enters into this new unknown world believing they're going to fail.

Therein lies the beauty and the mystery of entrepreneurship in Haliburton. Most of it comes from the heart with the head following at some point. This is not to say that owning a business in Haliburton County is a fool's errand. There are many smart enterprises that have been launched here but the big question needing to be answered is how it fares in the long run. There is a big difference between a great business and a great business for Haliburton County. Knowing the difference is the most vital component of being in business here.

What I think ultimately sets this area apart is the continuous run at the hill. Someone is always attempting to make a go of it here and start or continue a business even though the economic realities of the area are harsh. It's no secret that the region is still largely seasonal and that really never changes. Therefore your business needs to be flexible and able to withstand the massive fluctuations in conditions that exist here. Or just be stubborn and oblivious what you're soon about to face.

I've been to a number of other places much like Haliburton County. Their economic climate is much like Haliburton County in their dependence on outside, non-resident traffic to keep them financially afloat. They resemble this region in much of how they operate. The main difference however is the visible turnover in store fronts, or in their case, the noticeable lack of store front turnover. In other words in those towns businesses close down and the property remains vacant. For some reason though you rarely see an unoccupied, unused store front for too long. It seems that someone is always there to literally fill the void and frankly that's special.

You have to ask yourself why that is. For one reason having an incredible resource like the Haliburton County Development Corporation there to fuel commercial dreams is huge. All the ambition in the world amounts to nothing if it can't be supported

by financing and vital ancillary support. This part of the equation cannot be understated.

It also speaks to the attractiveness of the county to those who don't yet live here. Rarely do new business owners come here without at least a little knowledge of the area. Most times it's a part time love for the region they want to turn into a full time love affair. Again passion perhaps trumps better judgment. All they know is that they love the area and want a way to make it a bigger part of their lives.

And it also goes back to the very nature of the county itself and its never-say-die mentality. Those who live here know full well how people in these parts just persevere, often against better judgment. When a "smart" person would bail and throw in the towel Haliburton County residents just plod onwards displaying the blurry line that exists between determination and insanity.

And that's ultimately what these small town newspaper new business owner photos say. It's a renewal to the commitment of trying to make it work in this place, no matter how hard, how difficult and how insane it might seem at the outset. That alone gives them a real fighting chance to actually make this thing work.



By Charlie Teljeur

# Editorial opinion

## weeWisdom

### No more goodbyes

Hello Haliburton County! It's been awhile and before I get started, let me just say a very overdue "hello."

I hate goodbyes. I love hellos. Goodbyes are sad and full of loss. Hellos are new beginnings, fresh starts and a smile on a cloudy day. They are full of happiness wrapped up in a big hug.

September is goodbye. The end of summer freedom, of lazy days and sleeping in. The end of warm nights and cool lakes, of camp friends and bonfires. When darkness begins to creep into our day and the leaves lose their brilliant green. The sound of the school buses rambling along again is summer's swan song. As much as I love fall; the changing colours, new classes, cool days and harvesting our summer's bounty, I can't help but feel a sense of melancholy. Summer is gone and winter looms over fall's shoulder, leaving us with a chilling sense of solitude. It is goodbye.

This summer was particularly sorrowful. Old friends moved across the country, new friends came and went too quickly, our quirky cat Mr. Chewy died and my grandmother passed away. It was too many goodbyes. I want them all back. I want more hellos and more time to spend with them.

Losing someone you love is hard. You miss all the good times and wish you made more time for them. You deny your feelings

and weep when no one is watching. You hide the tears and hope that no one asks you again how you are doing. Goodbyes are lonely. They are full of heartache. You wish for carefree times and long, sunny days with no more mourning. No more sadness and no more goodbyes.

By Anabelle Craig

As a wise bear once said, "How lucky I am to know someone who is so hard to say goodbye to." - Winnie the Pooh.

This is so true. I feel I am the luckiest person alive to be surrounded by amazing people. Friends, Attic family and a community that I am happy to know and would be sad to say farewell to.

That is why we need more celebrations of hellos, more salutations, more "howdy" and "how-do-you-dos." More backyard barbecues and Friday night sleepovers. More pool parties, walks on the beach and lazy summer days of eating ice cream with your friends.

So until next time....

"There are no happy endings. Endings are the saddest part, So just give me a happy middle And a very happy start." -Shel Silverstein, *A Light in the Attic*.

For breaking news, videos and community events visit [TheHighlander.ca](http://TheHighlander.ca)

### Shooting the Samaritan

Being a good Samaritan and a goose hunter don't mix.

I know this.

Now.

The idea of being a good Samaritan, a knight in shining armour who rides to the rescue, has always held a certain appeal to me but, until recently, I had never really come across the instance to spring into action.

Now, a friend of mine is one of those fellows who is always there when someone needs a hand. He rescues old ladies from wrecked cars, pulls stuck vehicles out of snowy ditches, even talks down stranded cats from precarious branches but me, I don't get that kind of luck. I'm normally the guy who turns up five minutes after all the commotion and wonders out loud what all the fuss was about. And, until last week when I got my chance, I was somewhat disappointed with my unheroic lot.

Then, last Thursday, my turn came, and to tell you the truth it was downright inconvenient. I had planned a goose hunt after work, and, having raced home I was

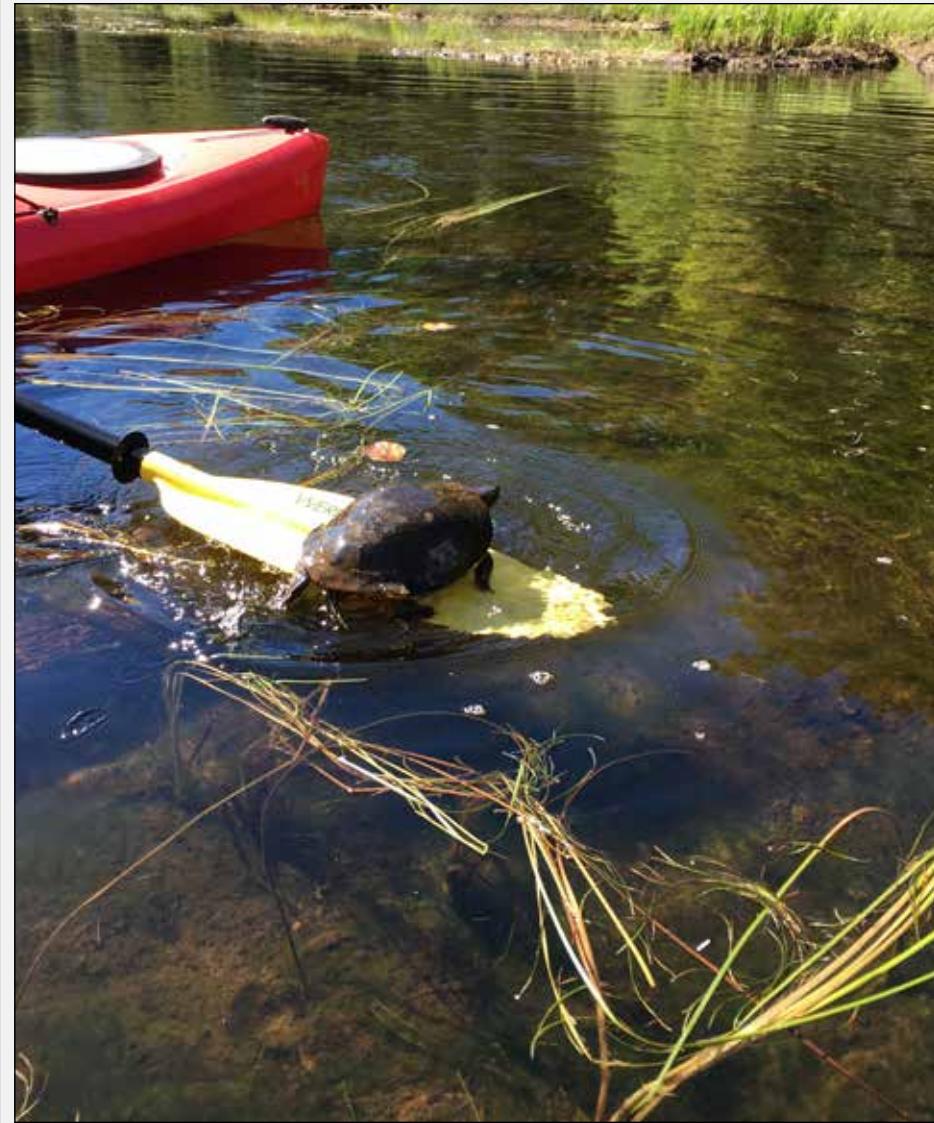
driving my truck to my secret hunting spot, looking forward to some peace and quiet, hopefully followed by a swift 'bang' and then goose for dinner.

Driving down County Road 1, I caught up with, and then passed an old chap on one of those little electric mopeds. He was tootling along at about 50 km/h, not a care in the world. I gave him a wide berth and drove by. Looking back as I rounded the next bend I saw, in the dim distance, the same fellow swerve and then fall off his moped into the middle of the road.

'Dammit!' I thought, 'do I, don't I?' all the while slowing and turning around. I pulled up, picked him up and dusted him off. He was battered and bruised and somewhat embarrassed. Seems his cap had blown off and he'd come a cropper while trying to turn around to go pick it up. He swore a bit, cursed the bike, the cap and the hard surface of the road before straddling the bike again and speeding off, without a thank you or goodbye.

'Oh well, so much for doing my good deed', I thought and I jumped back in my

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK



This photo by Leah MacLennan was recently taken on a kayaking adventure in Haliburton. Her family followed this turtle for a while and it got on top of one of their paddles before crawling off.

## TheOutsider



By Will Jones

Thursday evening.

By dusk, when the geese were flying, unharmed, to their roosts on ponds and lakes around the county, we were elbows deep in Foghorn Leghorn's innards, and it was long after the last goose had tucked its head under a wing that we sliced and diced the last chicken.

My friend was extremely grateful and I'd definitely done my good deed for the day, if not month. And there it was, the realization that I'd been a good Samaritan not once, not twice but three times in one day. I'd helped out an old chap who'd fallen off his bike, I'd come to the rescue at a chicken massacre, and I'd opted not to harm a single goose during the entire process.

And, before you say it, yes, with my aim, I am often a good Samaritan when it comes to the goose hunting but dammit, how about next time I get to do my good deeds on the day that my lovely wife wants to go to Costco?

# Highlander opinion

## Eye on the street: *What professional sports team are you following right now?*



**Abby Newlove**

Haliburton

I like watching track and field, but I'm really excited about cross country at school.



**Ross Chambers**

Newtonville, ON

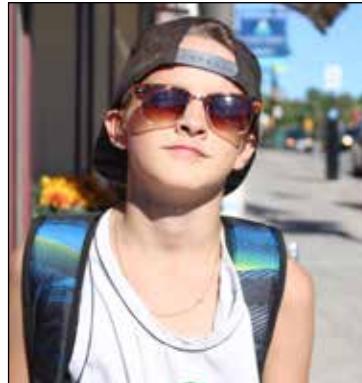
I have my two NFL teams: the Patriots and the Cardinals.



**Carter Stamp**

Haliburton

I watch hockey and I follow the Pittsburgh Penguins and Sidney Crosby.



**Evan Wheeler**

Haliburton

I usually watch basketball, and my favourite team is the Raptors.



**Dwayne Robertson**

Haliburton

I'm really excited about the NBA. I have tickets to a Raptors/Knicks game this season.

*Photos and interviews by Alex Coop.*

## Stunt driving leads to \$10,000 fine

An Aurora resident was handed a \$10,000 fine last week for a stunt driving charge he received in November of last year.

Kevin Kelner was pulled over by Haliburton Highlands OPP last year while driving 80 km/h over the speed limit in an area where the posted speed limit was 80 km/h. (Alex Coop)

## Blooms for Minden Hills in provincial contest

The Township of Minden Hills received a rating of 5 Blooms and special mention for its cultural centre and its community volunteers during the 2016 Communities in Bloom Ontario Provincial Awards hosted by the City of Stratford on Sept. 17.

"This is great news," said director of

community services Mark Coleman.

Coleman said the Minden Hills community services advisory committee and Communities in Bloom sub-committee will meet this fall to review a report and recommend plans for 2017 as part of the township's budget process later this fall.

In July and August, trained volunteer judges travelled to participating communities to evaluate the overall contributions of municipal council and department, industry, businesses and the private sector, including volunteer efforts, in regards to tidiness, environmental action, heritage conservation, urban forestry, landscape and floral displays. Communities in Bloom is a Canadian non-profit organization committed to fostering civic pride, environmental responsibility and beautification through community involvement and the challenge of a national program, with focus on the enhancement of green spaces. The pride, sense of community

and feeling of accomplishment generated through participation are visible in communities across Canada. For more information about Communities in Bloom, visit [communitiesinbloom.ca](http://communitiesinbloom.ca) (Lisa Gervais)

## Water drawdown for the winter to begin

Preparations for winter log settings will soon begin, says the latest Trent-Severn Waterway National Historic Site Water Management Update.

The Gull River reservoirs are now 69 per cent full, while the Burnt Reservoirs are at 63 per cent.

Central Reservoirs are at 70 per cent capacity.

Residents should expect a steady decline in water levels as the colder weather approaches, the report said, and should prepare accordingly.

A complete list of water level fluctuations

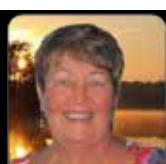
in Haliburton County can be found at [cewf.typepad.com/coalition\\_for\\_equitable\\_w/](http://cewf.typepad.com/coalition_for_equitable_w/) (Alex Coop)

## Thefts from vehicles on Kashag Lake Road

Following a string of thefts on Kashagawigamog Lake Road, drivers are being reminded to lock their vehicle doors when leaving them unattended.

Haliburton Highlands Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) reported on Monday that the road has been a target of a number of vehicle break-ins, and in addition to emphasizing locked doors, police are reminding residents to keep valuable items inside the car out of view.

Residents are encouraged to call the police if they see a suspicious vehicle or person in their neighbourhood, or on private property. (Alex Coop).



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# Highlander news



## SPARC coordinator recovering from serious bike accident

By Mark Arike

A familiar face in the community remains in hospital two weeks after being hit by a truck while riding his bicycle.

Greg Thomas suffered life-threatening injuries when he was struck around 7:45 p.m. on Sept. 7 on Highway 28 in Faraday Township, near Bancroft, according to a police report. He was taken to hospital with multiple fractures.

Police investigated the crash and charged 24-year-old Shandelle Burke of Highlands East with careless driving.

Thomas, who is in his mid-30s, is the network coordinator for Support Performing Arts in Rural Communities (SPARC).

He has been in the position since March.

It is unknown when he will be able to return to work.

"The SPARC Network Steering Committee is saddened to report that Greg Thomas will be away from the office for an as yet undetermined period of time," stated the committee in an email from chairwoman Chris Lynd. "On Wednesday, Sept. 7, Greg was unfortunately struck by a vehicle whilst riding his bicycle on Hwy 28 on his way home from Cardiff.

At the time of writing, he is in hospital recuperating and SPARC wishes him the very best and a speedy recovery."

Thomas has two children and hails from Derbyshire, England.

In April, he told The Highlander he rode his bike a distance of 60 km per week from the Bancroft area to Cardiff because he didn't have his license.

SPARC is an organization committed to helping performing arts communities flourish in rural Ontario.



Greg Thomas suffered life-threatening injuries when he was struck around 7:45 p.m. on Sept. 7 on Highway 28 in Faraday Township, according to a police report. *File photo.*



In April, the municipality announced it would be terminating its dealership agreement with Canada Post. It provided the required 180 days written notice, but Canada Post recently requested an extension. *File photo.*

## Public meeting scheduled for Gooderham post office

By Mark Arike

Residents will be able to have their say when it comes to the future of the Gooderham post office during a public meeting on Sept. 26. It will start at 7 p.m. at the Robert McCausland Memorial Community Centre.

In April, the municipality announced it would be terminating its dealership agreement with Canada Post. It provided the required 180 days written notice, but Canada Post recently requested an extension.

Council reached the decision because the current arrangement is too expensive and requires municipal staff time.

The outlet has an annual revenue of roughly \$20,000 but costs the municipality about \$60-80,000 per year to operate.

On Sept. 12, CAO Shannon Hunter provided council a chart summarizing the revenue and expenses for the past four years. Last year was the costliest at \$88,700.

The current outlet, which is located at 1032 Gooderham St., remains open to the

public.

Since the announcement, a petition to keep the current location open with all its services intact has received 397 signatures.

Reeve Dave Burton has assured residents that the community won't lose its post office and staff won't lose their jobs.

It is staffed by one full-time employee and two casual employees who cover the position when necessary.

The format of the meeting will be similar to a public meeting held under the Planning Act, according to clerk Irene Cook.

## Contract awarded for Drag Lake dam

By Lisa Gervais

The construction contract for rehabilitation of the Drag Lake Dam has been awarded to MTM-2 Contracting Inc.

"In the coming weeks, we will be able to provide more specific details about the mobilization schedule of the contractor and when work will get underway," Parks Canada said today.

The rehabilitation of the Drag Lake dams will entail major concrete repairs to both dams – chipping away damaged concrete and then resurfacing the structures.

A raised catwalk will be added to the site linking the two dams and reducing the number of stairs at the site.

New guardrails will be added to enhance visitor and operator safety and post tension anchors will be installed to affix the dam to bedrock for additional strength.

While access across the dam will be restricted during construction, the dam will be re-opened to the public at the conclusion of the project.

For up-to-date news on Parks Canada infrastructure work in your area, please visit [pc.gc.ca/tswInfrastructure](http://pc.gc.ca/tswInfrastructure).

For questions or concerns, or to receive updates regarding this project, contact [ont.trentsevern@pc.gc.ca](mailto:ont.trentsevern@pc.gc.ca) and include "Drag Lake" in the subject heading.

# Highlander news

## Grant supports parent engagement

By Mark Arike

Three school councils in Haliburton County are receiving \$1,000 in grant money this year.

The funds are from the Ministry of Education's Parents Reaching Out (PRO) grants program, which is providing more than \$13,000 to 14 schools throughout the board.

"These grants are very helpful to our school councils in their efforts to engage parents in their child's education," said Catherine Shedd, communications manager for the Trillium Lakelands District School Board. "It is important

for parents to have every opportunity to partner with the school to work with us in our goal for high levels of student achievement."

Archie Stouffer Elementary School in Minden will launch a project titled Reaching Parents Through Student Leadership. It will feature a parent information night on character development and strategies to support student emotional and social well-being.

In Haliburton, J.D. Hodgson Elementary School and Stuart Baker Elementary School will both start a project called Home and School: A Supportive

Partnership. It will include presentations by guest speakers on a variety of topics of interest to parents relating to student achievement and well-being.

PRO grants are intended to "support parents in identifying barriers to engagement in their own community and to find local solutions to involve more parents in support of student achievement and well-being," according to the ministry's website.

Since 2006, the government has invested nearly \$31 million to increase parent engagement at the local, regional and provincial levels.



Director of Education Larry Hope Photo by Mark Arike.

## Student vaccinations to prevent three serious infections

By Mark Arike

Grades 7 and 8 students will roll up their sleeves this fall for routine vaccination shots.

These will immunize students against three preventable diseases: human papillomavirus (HPV), hepatitis B and meningitis.

"Vaccines are free, safe and effective, so give your children the protection they deserve by getting them immunized," said

Marianne Rock, the health unit's manager of communicable disease control, epidemiology and evaluation, in a report.

"Vaccination is also convenient for busy families, as health unit nurses provide the three vaccines right in your child's school."

This month, the health unit will be sending vaccine information and consent forms home with students who are eligible to be immunized.

The most significant change is that the

HPV vaccination will be administered to boys and all students in Grade 7.

Until now, only female students in Grade 8 could receive the shot.

"HPV vaccine helps to protect against cancer, and medical experts have long been saying both girls and boys will benefit from it," said Rock.

HPV is one of the most common sexually transmitted infections in Canada and the world.

Some types of HPV lead to cancer while

others cause skin lesions such as genital warts.

Students may be excused from vaccinations for medical reasons or by providing a sworn affidavit that it is against their conscience or religious beliefs.

For more details, contact the health unit at 1-866-888-4577 or visit hkpr.on.ca.

More vaccination information is available at ontario.ca/vaccines.

## INFORMATION PAGE

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### Meetings & Events

#### PUBLIC WELCOME

September 29 9:00 am, Regular meeting of Council, Minden Council Chambers  
October 13 9:00 am, COTW meeting, Minden Council Chambers

For Council, Boards & Advisory Committee meetings, visit [www.mindenhills.ca](http://www.mindenhills.ca)

### Renewal Options for the S.G Nesbitt Arena - Upcoming Public Meeting

A General Public Meeting is scheduled for Monday October 3, 2016, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm to present and discuss additionally the renewal options for the S.G Nesbitt Memorial Arena. Meeting will be held at the Minden Community Centre, Room #2 – Doors open at 6:30 pm, Presentations at 7:00 pm.

### Public Input Requested for:

Renewal Options for the S.G Nesbitt Memorial Arena

#### Draft Master Parks and Trails Plan

Surveys Due Oct 11th. Comments or inquiries, contact the Director of Community Services, at [mcoleman@mindenhills.ca](mailto:mcoleman@mindenhills.ca), or 705-286-1936 ext. 201. Surveys can be accessed by visiting [www.mindenhills.ca](http://www.mindenhills.ca)

### Request for Tenders

#### For the Community Services Department:

Tender #CSD 16-002 – Shelter Design & Construction for the Minden Ball Diamonds. Submission deadline is Wednesday Sept 28, 2016 by 12:00 noon.  
Tender #CSD 16-003 – Quonset Hut Pad & Services. Submission deadline is Friday, Sept. 30, 2016 by 12:00 noon.

#### For the Environmental & Property Operations Department:

Tender #EPO 16-006 – Administration Office Stand-by Generator & Concrete Pad. Submission deadline is Tuesday Sept 27, 2016 by 12:00 noon.

Visit [www.mindenhills.ca/tenders/](http://www.mindenhills.ca/tenders/) for more information on this and other tenders.

### 2016 Volunteer Awards

Don't forget to submit your Nominations for the 2016 Volunteer Awards. Submission Deadline is Oct 31st. Visit [www.mindenhills.ca/volunteer-awards/](http://www.mindenhills.ca/volunteer-awards/) for the full list of awards and nomination forms.

### Call for Volunteers: Housing Task Force

The Township of Minden Hills' Planning and Development Advisory Committee is currently seeking interested individuals to participate on a Housing Task Force for the purpose of creating a mechanism for community engagement with respect to planning to meet the diverse housing needs in Minden Hills.

If interested, please submit your name and contact information together with a short statement of any relevant interest and/or experience in the matter with "Housing Task Force" in the subject line by mail or e-mail to:

Housing Task Force Applications  
C/O Clerk's Department  
Township of Minden Hills

P.O. Box 359 - 7 Milne Street

Minden, ON., K0M 2K0

or by e-mail to: [sprentice@mindenhills.ca](mailto:sprentice@mindenhills.ca)

Deadline to submit is: Sept 30, 2016.

Please visit [www.mindenhills.ca/2015-2018-advisory-committees/](http://www.mindenhills.ca/2015-2018-advisory-committees/) for more information on the task force mandate and draft terms of reference.

### Minden Hills Cultural Centre

#### Community Programming

176 Bobcaygeon Road Tuesday-Saturday 10am to 4pm

#### Gord Peteran re-assembled history

Ongoing to October 1, Agnes Jamieson Gallery

#### AJG Collection October 4 – December 17

Agnes Jamieson Gallery offers a viewing of a variety of works, by Andre Lapine ARCA, that illustrate his many skills as an artist. From portraits to landscape, still life and his famous horse tableaus, learn about Canada's foremost painter in the early 1900's.

#### Haliburton in Focus - Environmental Documentary and Discussion

#### Local/Global

October 1, Nature's Place & Common Room  
No fee is charged for this event.

12pm-2pm: Local documentaries by Sticks & Stones Media on environment issues.

2pm-4pm: From the youth's point of view, an environment video from each followed by discussion.

6:30pm-8pm: Spaceship Earth film by award-winning director Kevin McMahn

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# Highlander news



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## Help wanted in Haliburton County

### Businesses say work ethic is lacking in Millennials

By Lisa Gervais

Employers are looking for a few good men and women in Haliburton County.

While some businesses and companies are complaining that back to school leaves them short-staffed, others say they've been struggling to find enough competent workers for a while now.

"Good people are getting harder to find. We have seen this especially this year," says Trevor Chaulk of Chaulk Design Studio.

Cathy Morrow-Barnett, of Kashaga Wood and Paint, adds, "This year it was brutal finding people" and McKecks Tap & Grill general manager Karen Frybort says it's the biggest staff drought she has experienced in the county.

As Baby Boomers retire, we have Nexters, Generation Y or Millennials — born between 1980 and 1994 — moving into the workforce.

But, according to many of the sources that *The Highlander* spoke to, or who commented on our Facebook page about

this issue, they are not making the grade.

Morrow-Barnett said they had a variety of applicants but it was hard to find people who actually wanted to work. She said applicants did not want to get up early, work weekends, did not have transportation, and wanted a lot of time off.

She said others could not do the work and cost the company money, while still others thought they knew it all.

She said it was hard to find staff who were: willing to listen to instructions and carry them out, ambitious, constructively innovative, punctual, sticklers for detail, proud of their work and invested mentally and physically in the job.

"So many times they want the pay cheque and do not deliver what was said to them in the job description prior to hiring," she said on *The Highlander*'s Facebook page.

"I think a lot is availability of people with a work ethic," Frybort said in an interview.

She said she had to institute a 'phone zone' at work.

Workers must deposit their cell phones when they come to work and cannot use them during work time. Otherwise, she

said, they would be on their phones during working time.

Haliburton and District Chamber of Commerce president Jerry Walker, who owns Walker's Home Hardware in Haliburton, says there is a worrying trend underway.

"It is more than just back to school. I have been hearing from businesses as far back as the spring that there is a shortage of applications and help. I don't know if it's more the younger generation..."

He said he likes to hire high school students to give them a bit of work after school and on the weekend but very few have applied this year. He said when he was in school he wanted to work and his parents told him he had to, if he wanted to buy a new baseball glove, for example. Today, he said if a school student wants to buy a new cell phone, his parents simply buy it for him.

"There is a general feeling that we are not getting that next generation through. They don't apply for jobs. They are not working. They just don't have the desire to work and the parents don't have the desire to make them," he said in an interview.

But reader Cathy Henwood says the problem is the jobs that are available tend to be low paying, part-time with no benefits.

"Good jobs are harder to find for sure,"

she commented on our Facebook page.

However, Walker defends employers. He said he would love to pay more but he has to remain price competitive. "It doesn't allow you to inch up that wage."

Morrow-Barnett agrees.

"The days of the small companies offering the world to their employees is getting sucked right off the table for the very reason it's hard for all of us to pay our Hydro bill. The government is getting more and more greedy and making the cost of doing business impossible to afford giving the employees all the benefits and perks. It's not easy to be a small business owner."

"It's a balance, and it's getting more and more difficult.

Small business is the root of our community, like it or not, it is a fact. If we keep losing them we lose who we are and the foundation of this community."

A new resident, Tracy Cameron, agrees it is a delicate balance.

"I was under the impression that it is nearly impossible to find work," she commented on Facebook.

"It's sad to see that there actually is [work] but positions can't be filled.

Our community definitely falls under a lower income majority which makes it difficult to keep up with the cost of living. Where is the balance?"

*I think a lot is availability of people with a work ethic.*

**Karen Frybort**

Manager, McKecks Tap & Grill

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# Highlander news

## Hunting and trapping of wolves and coyotes to be limited by province

### MNRF says people can still protect themselves and livestock

By Lisa Gervais

Hunters and trappers in parts of Haliburton county will not be able to shoot or catch wolves and coyotes after the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) announced a ban earlier this week.

A spokeswoman for the MNRF told the Highlander on Tuesday that the Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario (COSSARO) recently re-assessed and listed the Algonquin Wolf (formerly known as the Eastern Wolf) as a threatened species. There are fewer than 500 adult Algonquin wolves in all of Ontario.

Under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), this means that the Algonquin Wolf and its habitat are automatically and immediately protected under law, the spokeswoman said.

“Due to the difficulty in visually distinguishing the Algonquin Wolf from coyotes and other wolves, the ministry is limiting the hunting and trapping of wolves and coyotes in three core areas where Algonquin Wolf is most likely known to occur,” she said.

The protected zones are in the areas bordering Kawartha Highlands Provincial Park, Queen Elizabeth II Provincial Park and Killarney Provincial Park.

At the same time, the spokeswoman said the ministry is proposing an exemption under

the ESA to allow the hunting and trapping of wolves and coyote in large parts of eastern and northern Ontario within the broader range.

“This approach balances the economic and safety needs of local landowners and farmers with the need to protect this vulnerable species,” she said.

Further, the spokeswoman said that within the three core areas, landowners are still allowed to kill, harm or harass an Algonquin Wolf or coyote in incidents of risks to health and safety, including the protection of domestic and livestock animals.

*This approach balances the economic and safety needs of local landowners.*

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

“These measures are an interim approach to protect the species while the government initiates the recovery planning process and seeks information and input from stakeholders and the public as part of this

work,” the spokeswoman said.

Hunting and trapping organizations were quick to respond to the ban this week.

The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) said emotion had won out over science in implementing the ban.

“Effective immediately, hunting and trapping of wolves and coyotes has been banned in 40 townships from Anstruther to Minden to Killarney,” the OFAH said in a media release.

“The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry’s original proposal last month only provided a single option accompanied by an almost complete absence of sufficient evidence to support it,” said OFAH manager of fish and wildlife services Matt DeMille.

He said the decision acknowledged but did nothing to address the OFAH’s legitimate concerns with the government’s approach to resource management decision-making.”

He chastised the MNRF for a lack of real public consultation, saying there was only 30 days to respond. And, he vowed the fight is not over.

“We didn’t back down when the government allowed emotion to get in the way of a sustainable spring bear hunt. We won’t back down when it comes to demanding sound wolf and coyote management either.

The OFAH will never stop pushing for sound evidence-based decision-making in this province,” DeMille said.

### Where hunting and trapping are banned

- The area around Kawartha Highlands Provincial Park, including the geographic townships of Anstruther, Burleigh, Cardiff, Cavendish, Chandos, Harvey, and Monmouth.

- The area around Queen Elizabeth II Wildlands Provincial Park, including the geographic townships of Anson, Dalton, Digby, Longford, Lutterworth, Minden, and Ryde;

- The area around Killarney Provincial Park, including the geographic townships of Allen, Attlee, Bevin, Burwash, Caen, Carlyle, Cox, Curtin, Dieppe, Eden, Foster, Goschen, Halifax, Hansen, Humboldt, Killarney, Kilpatrick, Laura, Roosevelt, Sale, Secord, Servos, Struthers, Tilton, Truman, and Waldie.

### Noisy culvert job on the way

Council has had to waive its noise by-law to allow AECOM to replace two culverts along Hwy N, north of Carnarvon, in mid-June.

In a letter to council tabled at the Sept. 15 meeting, AECOM said it is proposing to do the work over 24 hours. Each replacement will take one or two days.

There will be one lane of traffic controlled by flag persons and portable variable message signs to alert traffic. The work area will be lit at night. They said they would use excavators, backhoes, dump trucks, soil compactors, and diesel generators.

Coun. Marlene Kyle asked if there were

any residences near the worksites that would be affected by the noise. She said she had asked for a map pinpointing any affected properties but had not received one.

### Club 35 up for sale

Nearly a year after closing Club 35 north of Carnarvon, Algonquin Highlands council has put the building up for sale.

The sale of land by public tender was posted Sept. 6 with a closing date of 11 a.m. Oct. 3. Club 35 is located at 17459 Hwy 35. Tender documents are available from the township. According to the paperwork, the minimum tender amount is \$150,000.

While the matter was not discussed at the AH regular council meeting on

Sept. 15, deputy reeve Liz Daniels confirmed the sale.

She said there had been some discussion with the County of Haliburton about using the small community centre for an ambulance base for training but “they’re just not quite ready yet.”

“It’s unfortunate,” Daniels said of the sale “but it is just not making financial sense.”

A decision was made to close Club 35 last October.

AH building well ahead of last year

By the end of last week, AH had already surpassed last year’s building levels, chief building official/by-law officer David Rodgers told the last AH council meeting.

“It’s been very busy. Things are going good,” he said.

In August, he said the department issued

27 building and seven septic permits. Fees were in excess of \$18,000 and the construction value just shy of \$1.7 million.

### Well water being tested in Dorset

Staff at the Dorset garage are unable to drink the tap water after high sodium levels were recorded from the new well.

Operations manager Mike Thomas told council that signs had been posted advising staff the tap water was not potable and that drinking water was being provided.

He said he was collecting water sample last week for further testing. (Briefs by Lisa Gervais)



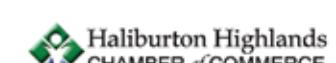
**YPN Night**  
 Thursday, September 29th @ 6:00 pm  
 Abbey Gardens, Haliburton  
 Join us for a tour of Abbey Gardens and beer tasting by Haliburton Highlands Brewing!  
 Check out Haliburton Highlands Young Professionals Network on Facebook or @HighlandsYPN on Twitter

An initiative of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, the goal of this network is to provide the “20-to-30 something” demographic with opportunities and supports to live, work, and play here. We strengthen the fabric of the community by giving Young Professionals a voice – and opportunities to be successful.

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**TheHighlander**



# Highlander news



Minden native Ryan Sisson, 34, is the new environmental coordinator for Algonquin Highlands. Photo by Jennifer Hughey.

## AH hires accomplished environment advocate

By Lisa Harrison

Ryan Sisson is right where he wants to be — back home with family and friends in the environment he loves.

Minden native Sisson, 34, is the new environmental coordinator for Algonquin Highlands. He is a nationally certified environmental professional (EP) with specializations in education and communication. He holds a Bachelor of Environmental Studies degree with a focus on environmental policy, planning and law, and a Master's degree in science with a focus on environmental policy and politics.

"Basically my core responsibilities are to develop and administer waste diversion programs here in the township," said Sisson in an interview. "Education and promotion are the lynch pin, if you will, of any of these successful conservation programs. People need to know about them, they need to understand the importance of these initiatives."

Sisson said he's excited to staff the township's new environment and stewardship committee and about his new role in general, given the township's strong history in environmental care.

"I'm fortunate to be building on a legacy of success in this area," said Sisson.

As a member of a well-known local family with roots in the Maple Lake area, Sisson certainly knows the territory. His grandfather, Holly, settled in West Guilford and his father, Bryan, married Sue Sedgewick of Haliburton and moved to Minden.

Sisson's father was interested in conservation and took him hunting and fishing, and his mother took Sisson and

his sister on outings such as the activity days offered then at the Frost Centre in Dorset. As a scout, Sisson planted trees in Algonquin Park. He chuckled as he recalled that in Grade 4, he and a couple of buddies washed recyclable materials as part of a school environmental committee.

"So I've sort of had this feeling [for the environment] for a long time."

*I'm fortunate to be building on a legacy of success in this area.*

**Ryan Sisson**  
Environmental coordinator

Sisson pursued his passion in a three-year ecosystem management program at Fleming College's Frost Campus in Lindsay, working as a co-op student with the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association he helped with the release of the first Haliburton Gold lake trout. He transferred to a joint Fleming-Trent University program at Trent for his Bachelor's degree after a summer internship with the Sierra Club of Canada on their biodiversity and forestry campaigns.

After graduation, Sisson served as a constituency assistant for Peterborough MPP Jeff Leal, currently the provincial Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and then worked with the provincial Minister of Aboriginal Affairs until 2010.

"I've really developed a lot of experience around public service and working with the public," said Sisson.

He returned to school for his Master's degree at the University of Michigan School of Natural Resources and Environment, which he said is recognized as one of the best natural resources schools in North America. While there Sisson attended the annual United Nations climate change conference in Cancun, Mexico as a student delegate, observing environmental decisions made on a global level. He also worked with the state legislature on children's environmental health advocacy.

"I've always been interested in environmental decision-making and governance — you know, why are things the way they are, and how can we improve on systems and processes."

After graduating in 2012 Sisson taught at Aurora College, Northwest Territories, and in 2013 began lecturing at the Canadian University Dubai in what is now the School of Public Health and Health Sciences.

Sisson's Dubai contract ended in August and he started at AH the first week of September.

"Regardless of where I've been, I've always come home, and I try to spend as much time [as possible] outdoors enjoying the Highlands," said Sisson.

"Why wait till you retire to live here?"

Sisson added a plug for the final fall hazardous waste day on Oct. 8 at the Maple Lake landfill, encouraging residents to dispose of old paint, finishing products, household batteries, fertilizers and more to avoid keeping hazardous items around the house.



Haliburton Highlands  
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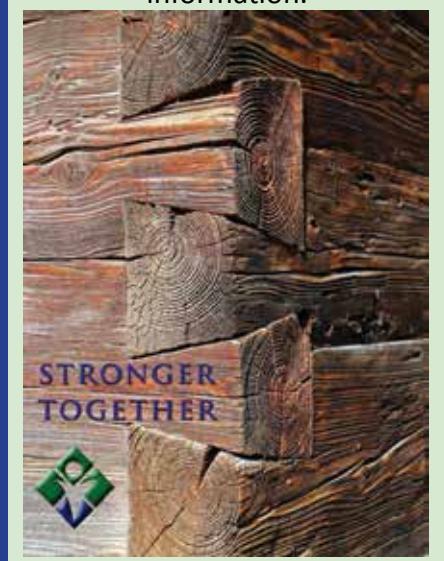
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# Highlander news

## Bogus job ad pops up in the Highlands

By Mark Arike

When Minden resident Nicole Manary came across a job ad in *The Highlander* looking for an experienced caregiver, she didn't hesitate to express her interest by email.

"I responded like you would to a job you wanted," recalled Manary. "They responded back and seemed very interested in me."

But there were a few red flags.

The individual said she would be relocating to Canada from New South Wales, Australia with her husband. The woman claimed her husband works for the government in corporate affairs and was promoted "as the head of his team."

"Most people do not relocate to Haliburton for that. That was weird," Manary laughed.

Also odd was the fact that the person asked Manary for the name of the city and suburb she was from.

The job itself required a commitment of four hours per day, four days a week caring for the woman's mother-in-law. The pay was \$20 per hour.

Manary's responsibilities would include feeding her, doing laundry and taking her places, among others.

"You will monitor her with the best care possible," wrote the woman. "My mother-in-law is everything to me and my husband so we are entrusting you to give her the best care."

*Most people do not relocate to Haliburton for that. That was weird.*

**Nicole Manary**  
Minden resident

Manary didn't respond.

It turns out she isn't the only one who inquired about the classified ad, which appeared in two editions of the paper before being removed. At least three other local residents contacted the advertiser, who sent them verbatim responses.

Fortunately, no one in the area has reported losing money.

*The Highlander* reported the scam to the Haliburton Highlands OPP.

"I am comfortable saying that at this point the ad was not legitimate," said Const. Tim Negus.

He also confirmed that a compromised credit card was used to pay for it.

A Google search uncovers several job ads placed in other newspapers and online job boards with the same contact information.

the Feed-in Tariff (FIT) program.

"Right now we are in the process of getting ready to apply for solar contracts," Szadkowska told council on Sept. 12.

"The [resolution] is an important part of the process."

The Canadian-owned company specializes in small FIT projects and has 20 years of experience in the energy industry, she said. They have more than 300 solar projects in the works.

In September of last year, council passed a bylaw authorizing agreements for six

### Tips for the public (provided by the OPP)

- If it sounds too good to be true it is probably not legitimate. Be skeptical.
- Be careful when you respond to these ads that you are not too quick to provide any personal information.
- Ask a lot of questions and don't be satisfied with answers that leave you with more questions.
- Ask for references, phone numbers, contact names and addresses. Follow up on that information.
- Protect your personal, banking and credit information.

• Report any suspicious activity to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Center, and check the website for recent scams.

### Other general tips

- Keep your credit cards in a non-readable folder that fits in your wallet or purse to avoid it being inadvertently read by a skimmer.
- Deal with reputable business partners whom you trust.
- Never provide your personal, banking or credit information online unless you are absolutely sure it is being done securely.
- When in doubt ask for assistance from someone you trust.

responsible for reimbursing their bank.

"The downside to it that scares me—not only from the processing of bogus cheques—is that these people are replying in good faith. So they're giving them enough information almost to pull an identity fraud," said Mason.

Negus contacted the security department of the bank that issued the credit card used to pay for the ad.

Anyone who has been scammed should call the OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Suspicious activity should be reported to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre. For more information, visit antifraudcentre.ca.

## Solar company pitches more projects in HE

By Mark Arike

A solar development company that previously received support for eight solar ground mount projects in Highlands East returned to council with three more projects.

Anna Szadkowska, project manager for Toronto-based Abundant Solar Energy, requested a municipal support resolution for the non-rooftop installations.

Council approved the request, which will earn the company priority points through

the Feed-in Tariff (FIT) program.

"Right now we are in the process of getting ready to apply for solar contracts," Szadkowska told council on Sept. 12.

"The [resolution] is an important part of the process."

The Canadian-owned company specializes in small FIT projects and has 20 years of experience in the energy industry, she said. They have more than 300 solar projects in the works.

In September of last year, council passed a bylaw authorizing agreements for six

ground mount and six rooftop solar projects. Four of the six ground mount projects were awarded a contract from the Independent Electrical System Operator.

In July, council learned that eight more properties became eligible for contracts. They approved four of them for ground mount projects.

The FIT program was developed to "encourage and promote greater use of renewable energy sources," according to its website. It is open to projects that generate 10-500 kW of power.

They need at least five acres of non-agricultural land, she explained. Properties are leased from local residents for 20 years.

The benefits include a financial investment in the community and job opportunities, she said.

"Once projects are built, there will be maintenance and we look forward to working with the local companies to help us with that."

To learn more about the FIT program, visit [fit.powerauthority.on.ca](http://fit.powerauthority.on.ca).

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# Highlander environment

WATCH VIDEO AT [THEHIGHLANDER.CA](http://THEHIGHLANDER.CA)

Thomas Giguere swims with freshwater jellyfish in Lake Kashagawigamog this summer.  
Photo submitted by Thomas Giguere.

## Jellyfish from China in Haliburton lakes

By Mark Arike

Thomas Giguere has embraced Haliburton County's lakes since he was a toddler.

His love of the water and fascination with the life in it led him to enrolling in the marine and freshwater biology program at the University of Guelph.

So when the 21-year-old heard there were jellyfish in the Highlands, it piqued his interest.

"Three or four years ago I had heard about the jellyfish in the lakes here," said Giguere, explaining that someone showed him a jellyfish inside a styrofoam cup when he worked at Haliburton RPM.

Last August, he discovered this freshwater jellyfish while on a pontoon boat ride with his family on Haliburton's Head Lake.

"Just as we were leaving I looked in the water ... and I saw something floating around that was really small but white," he recalled, adding it was the size of a penny.

Giguere scooped it up in a cup and realized it was in fact a freshwater jellyfish. He put on his goggles and jumped in the lake, where he swam around dozens of them.

About a month ago he saw hundreds, if not thousands, of them in Lake Kashagawigamog.

"I know of people who have seen them in Head Lake and a lot of other lakes around here," he said.

He did some research on the Internet and came to the conclusion these were *Craspedacusta sowerbyi*, a jellyfish-like creature that is native to China. He also learned they were most likely transported to the area by way of ornamental aquatic plants, such as water lilies.

Erin MacDonald, management biologist with the Bancroft district of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, confirmed his findings.

"They are native to China but are now common in temperate climates across the globe," said MacDonald.

They were first discovered in the Great Lakes as far back as the 1930s and inland lakes in Ontario in the '80s.

"They are often present in lakes in their larval forms but are rarely detected until the right conditions exist (water temperatures of at least 25 degree Celsius) and colonies of adults develop. In Ontario, this occurs sporadically and it could be years between blooms," she said.

MacDonald has received numerous reports of the species over the years, including several from Lake Kashagawigamog. Samples have also been submitted to her.

The adults feed on zooplankton and other small aquatic invertebrates.

Their impact is not fully known at this time due to a lack of research.

"It's thought that during the years of adult blooms, they may impact zooplankton populations, which could affect other species that depend on the same food source."

Although they aren't dangerous to humans, their sting can paralyze small prey, said MacDonald.

This summer, Giguere purchased an underwater camera and captured video of himself swimming with the jellyfish.

He decided to launch a YouTube channel with footage of his underwater adventures.

He wants it to serve as an educational tool and encourage others to respect underwater life.

"It's just an unseen thing; people don't tend to look at it a lot. I want to shine a light on it to show how important it is."

Now in his fifth year of university, Giguere will graduate with his bachelor's degree next April.

He then plans to get his master's degree, preferably in hydrothermal vent research.

Giguere's dream job is to be a deep sea researcher.

For more information about freshwater jellyfish, visit [freshwaterjellyfish.org](http://freshwaterjellyfish.org). Sightings can be reported online.



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# Highlander arts

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## Highlands one of three communities in arts study

By Mark Arike

The Haliburton Highlands offers a thriving arts scene, where one can visit multiple artists' studios and enjoy live theatre all in the same day.

In the summer, it's next to impossible to come across a weekend without at least one concert or other arts-related event on the schedule.

So what makes it such a creative hotspot and how exactly do the arts benefit the community?

Consultant Inga Petri wants to know by Sept. 26.

She is encouraging local residents—full-time and seasonal—and visitors to complete a short survey as part of a study that aims to gain new insight into how rural communities can become thriving arts destinations.

The other two communities in her study are Temiskaming Shores, a city in northeastern Ontario, and Wells, B.C.

The survey came to be because of the Arts Council's relationship with Supporting Performing Arts in Rural Communities (SPARC). Petri is one of the keynote speakers and workshop facilitators for SPARC's upcoming symposium in October.

"It gives us a new way of looking at ourselves as part of the bigger rural arts community in our country," said Kate Butler, acting chair of the Arts Council.

Formerly known as the Symposium for the Performing Arts in Rural Ontario, SPARC started with a four-day symposium in Haliburton in April of 2014. More than 130 people from across the province attended.

It brought together rural creators, producers and presenters from across the province and beyond.

Its mission is to support the performing arts in rural communities.

Petri is investigating whether there are common criteria or success indicators for building a sustainable, rural arts community, according to a press release.

The survey consists of 20 questions, some of which are multiple choice.

"The questions focus on your opinions and perceptions about the arts in Haliburton County," said Petri.

Participation is voluntary and confidential.

Petri will present her findings from the study at the symposium taking place from Oct. 27 to 30 at the Pinestone Resort.

Butler believes the findings will be valuable to the Arts Council.

"It will give us a better understanding of the role of the arts in the county and the views of diverse groups in the community," she said.

"The survey will highlight strengths in our arts community as well as opportunities for the community moving forward. In addition, it will give us a better understanding of the role of the arts in rural communities, particularly in terms of comparing and contrasting ourselves with other rural communities."

Questions about the study can be directed to Petri at 613-558-8433 or [ipetri@strategicmoves.ca](mailto:ipetri@strategicmoves.ca).



Students attend a class at the Haliburton School of Art + Design (HSAD) this week. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

## Fleming enrollment 'on par' with last year

By Lisa Gervais

Enrollment at the Haliburton School of Art + Design (HSAD) is "on par" with last year, according to dean Sandra Dupret.

She told the Highlander in an interview this week that they have close to 100 students so far this fall. The capacity is about 130.

"Our programs are small. We were not built to hold hundreds. So, our programs are healthy and the numbers are good," Dupret said.

She said there has been a higher demand for ceramics than in the past.

The ceramics faculty is holding its own exhibition at the college. It is something the HSAD is doing more of, "more comprehensive and cohesive" shows of its

teachers' works. Dupret said it is a great way for students to see their mentor's work "up close and personal."

Erin Lynch does a lot of the work on these exhibitions. Dupret said the spring and fall are good times to showcase faculty work since the diploma students step up in winter with their own show. The Haliburton Arts Council also uses the HSAD space.

She said the school is growing its programming, highlighting the beginning of the new Moving Image Design course being taught by Tammy Rae.

The college is also looking forward to launching the new Centre for Making. It will contain a variety of technologies, such as 3D printers, laser cutters and large scale plotter-printers for student and community use. Dupret is hopeful it will open next month.

"So, there's quite a bit going on," she said.

# Highlander arts

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What's Up?

## SPARC-ing the Blues?

During the last five years, from October to June, I've been promoting a music series featuring the best blues bands and musicians from across Canada. There has been an average of five shows per season and the venue is in Minden. But my concern is that the venue's limited seating capacity makes it difficult to financially sustain the series.

I'd like to keep ticket prices in the \$25 range, or even lower. However, to do that - and for the series to break even while maintaining the same, very high standard of talent - ticket sales would need to be increased beyond the room's capacity. A move to a larger venue could be an answer, but in Minden, there simply is no other appropriate performance space available.

It's a problem we share with many rural communities in Ontario. In the past, I have attended several performing arts round tables and put my name down as a person interested in forming a committee to see if we could raise funds for a multi-purpose performance space in Minden but I haven't been contacted by anyone.

More recently, I've been keeping tabs on the progress of the Symposium for Performing Arts in Rural Communities (SPARC) and I wondered whether that

organization could offer any help. I wanted to talk to them as well about how I could best hook up with other promoters in rural Ontario in order to maybe start a rural blues tour that would see promoters team up and reduce costs. If a band knew that they had gigs in Minden and Huntsville say, on successive nights, they'd be willing to charge less for each gig. Such a partnership might enable me to keep the series at its present location for the time being.

I was buoyed by the fact that SPARC is now a network with its base in Haliburton, and our local chapter is about to host the SPARC 2016 Symposium.

I emailed my concerns regarding a performance space and a possible rural promoter's partnership to Greg Thomas, SPARC's network coordinator, and was pleased and surprised with the prompt reply outlining workshops in the upcoming symposium that might address some of my concerns. Had my blues series found the 'sparc' it needed?

Unrelated to my emails with Thomas, I was contacted by Rachel Gillooly, the project coordinator for the upcoming symposium.

She wanted to know if I was interested in writing a story on SPARC and the

symposium. I met with her and Fay Martin, who is chair of the symposium working group and a member of the network steering committee. I have great respect for both of these women and listened intently to their obvious delight and enthusiasm in telling me of the history, aims and potential of SPARC. While they spoke I was trying to figure out exactly how their information could help with my promotional problems and aspirations.

"The symposium creates opportunities for people to identify issues and facilitate collaborative actions" Martin said. "And it's a way to make connections with other people who have similar issues. You can get smarter together than you can by yourself."

The meeting with the two women left me enervated, a situation which came to a thudding halt upon learning of the cycling accident which befell Thomas.

Another thud occurred in an email from Gillooly after our meeting. I had assumed that for a reasonable price I would be able to attend the symposium workshops that I deemed to be of most benefit.

However you cannot just register for specific workshops. You have to register for either the day-of, or the entire symposium. I found out that there was

a \$150 registration bursary application available which, if

approved by the committee, would reduce full registration from \$265 to \$115. Unfortunately, those prices take a great many people out of the equation.

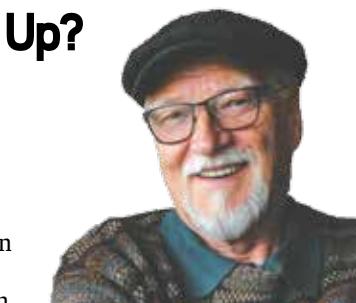
I think SPARC needs to reconsider its policy regarding registration for individual workshops.

Events like the 2016 symposium should be affordable to everyone not just the more affluent members of our society and that's also my thinking behind trying to keep my blues ticket prices in the \$25 range.

It's a struggle, I admit, and without a promoter's partnership and a larger venue, ticket prices might have to rise to \$30.

But for SPARC these are still early days and some things will surely change. In the meantime I sincerely hope that the 2016 symposium will prove of benefit to some of those people who create, produce or present the performing arts in rural settings.

More information on the SPARC 2016 Symposium can be found at [www.sparcperformingarts.com/](http://www.sparcperformingarts.com/)



By George Farrell



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# Love your life to death

By Lisa Gervais

The 'D' word got splashed around the county last week as author and speaker Yvonne Heath came to Minden and Haliburton.

Heath has quit working as a nurse and is on a mission to help our society overcome its "death phobia."

She spoke in the Highland Crest Auditorium in Minden and the Haliburton Museum in Haliburton on Friday, Sept. 16.

"I am so honoured that there are so many people here," she told a full crowd at the museum, joking it is hard to find people who are happy to talk about grief, dying and death.

She emphasized the need for humour in the process since the topic "is already serious enough, isn't it?"

After working in 10 different hospitals and seeing how not only the general public, but hospital staff, struggled with dying, death and grief, she said she was compelled to take action.

"I was going to write a book. And then I heard that I had to speak." Both were new and daunting tasks. "But passion and inspiration have kidnapped me," she said.

She wrote a book called *Love Your Life to Death* and is often invited to speak and give workshops. The Haliburton Highlands Health Service's hospice program invited her here as they are currently recruiting volunteers for October training.

Heath said she sent out an e-mail seeking stories for her book and the responses came in droves. "People were looking for a place to talk about these things."

She shared the story of Homer, a man blind from the age of 17, who lived his life to the fullest. His loved ones were

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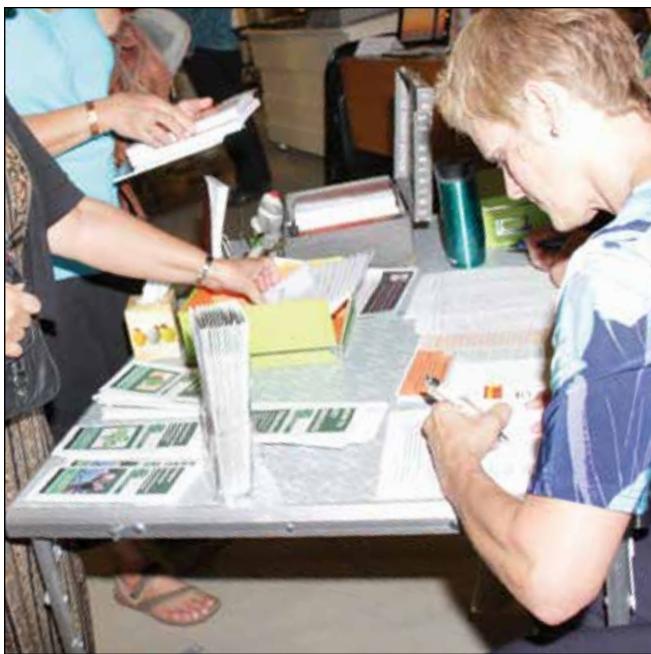
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Yvonne Heath signs a copy of her book *Love Your Life to Death* at the Haliburton Museum on Sept. 16. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

with him at the time of his death and when it was time for him to go, they simply said "jump" and he did. "That is the kind of peace and acceptance I wish for everyone," Heath said.

Her message is that we will grieve our whole lives and one day die, "so let's get ready."

Rather than avoiding the pink elephant in the room, Heath advises people to talk about it and plan.

"The best time to talk about, plan and prepare for grief, death and dying is when we are young and healthy. The next best time is now," she shares.

She has walked the talk, planning the details around her death, and has asked her husband to do the same.

She said she spent two days with her mother planning for when her time comes, including finding out about the type of send-off she would want as well as her values about organ donation.

She tells the story of another woman who died while her husband

drummed at her side. That was her wish.

"We can fear it or empower ourselves for change."

Heath's other takeaways include, "It takes a village to support the ill, the caregiver, the dying, the bereaved and each other." Another pearl of wisdom is to "just show up," even if you don't know what to do or say.

It can be something as simple as cutting the grass of a person who has just lost a loved one since those things still have to be done. She also encourages people to "show up for yourself first," or in other words, practice self-care.

She also encourages people to structure their life in such a way that they can live without each other.

For example, women should learn to use the generator and do banking and men should learn to cook.

Her last words of advice are "find your post" – or "find something you can hang onto no matter what." That could be faith.

She ends her talk by saying people at the end of their life often wonder what their legacy will be and she says "together, we can create a culture of change" around grief, dying and death.

She also put in a plug for hospice, encouraging people to volunteer, since "you walk away with so much more than you give."

If you are interested in volunteering for hospice, contact Brigitte Gebauer, HHHS Volunteer Services at 705-457-2941 or email [bgebauer@hhhs.ca](mailto:bgebauer@hhhs.ca)

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# Living well

## HHHS integration strategy opens doors and discussion

By Alex Coop

With the amalgamation of Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) and Community Care Haliburton County in the rear-view mirror, Community Support Services director Stephanie MacLaren says it's time to engage with the community to help improve access to quality care, and address issues like poverty.

"We're seeing poverty and isolation coming into the healthcare conversation, before it was typically a conversation about social services," MacLaren — who was officially named the permanent director Tuesday after working as the interim director since May — said.

According to the county's poverty reduction strategy, 271 households in the county access food banks on a monthly basis.

Thirty per cent of people from those households are children.

"We want to make sure we are truly accessing the most vulnerable," MacLaren said.

That will be easier to do, she said, now that the hospital's integration strategy with Community Health Services has been ratified.

The idea behind the merger came from Ontario's Local Health Integration Network, Central East branch, back in 2012.

It suggested HHHS create one umbrella that would contain all of the hospital's community partners.

The plan has been put to action across multiple hospitals across the province, and the streamlined flow of information from one end of the corporate chain to the other, will make accessing Haliburton's support services a lot easier, MacLaren said.

It will also help those same services coordinate amongst each other to help patients get the best support system possible, even after they are discharged from the hospital, says HHHS CEO Carolyn Plummer.

"It's challenging to coordinate with everyone across the many services, but now we have everyone around the table, in the same room, having these conversations," she said.

"The information flow and coordination between departments has improved," MacLaren added.

But there is still room to grow, she says, specifically when it comes to accessing patient records seamlessly across all departments.

"We have all these services doing fantastic work, but not necessarily knowing what each

one was doing. So we need to create a system that a patient or client can flow through."

Plummer said the tangled web of information has been confusing for staff members as well, which is why a recently announced pilot project for rural health hubs is so attractive.

Announced by the Ontario government in early August, the \$2.5 million in funding targets remote areas of the province and will help pay for health hubs that will "support health system transformation and improve care, access and outcomes for patients" says a press release from the province.

It's no accident that Haliburton was awarded one of the health hubs, Plummer says.

"I know that the integration that we've undergone to date and what we've accomplished demonstrates our potential, and that was a huge factor in the decision to award us a pilot."

There will be extensive community engagement regarding the health hubs, which Plummer says will begin in the coming months.

### October a big month for community support

Integration strategies and other changes behind the scenes aren't overshadowing the importance of the hospital's volunteers, MacLaren says.

"They continue to help us keep a pulse on the community."

There are more than 400 volunteers donating their time across all health services in Haliburton.

MacLaren would like to see that number grow during the Ontario Community Support Association's (OCNA) Community Support Month, which starts Oct. 1.

Community support services across the province will celebrate the various programs they offer, while educating people about them as well.

MacLaren says Haliburton has a lot to be proud of.

"All of our programs have met or exceeded expectations, and we want to emphasize that," she said.

"[Community Support Services] has become more robust since it joined HHHS," MacLaren added, pointing to the new

services they inherited after the merger, such as its adult day programs and palliative care systems.

"Those programs are invested in keeping people out of the hospital," she said. "And we want to share their stories about how our programs have changed their lives."

\* Come join The Adult Day Program in celebration of their exemplary services, staff and volunteers at their "End of Summer Celebration featuring Heather and George" in the Auditorium at Hyland Crest, 6 McPherson Street, Minden today (Thursday, Sept. 22 from 1:30-3 p.m.)



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# Highland Storm



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The S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena is used Monday night as a public consultation on its future of wound up in community room 2 next door. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

## Discussions continue on future of S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena

By Lisa Gervais

Members of the Highland Storm Minor Hockey Association attended a Monday meeting about the future of the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena in Minden.

The township called the meeting to provide an update to sports and recreational groups as well as seek their public comment.

It is now estimated that the cost of repairing the existing 44-year-old facility will be about \$3 million.

The municipality has struck a task force and so far three options are on the table: option A is the \$3 million repair; option B is renovating the facility with design and amenity enhancements at a cost of approximately \$6.5 million; or option C, a new facility at a cost of \$10-\$12 million.

While the task force and council will not make a final decision on which option they will choose until a December 2016 meeting, it appears from comments made Monday that they are leaning towards the middle option, which should add 25-30 years to the life of the arena.

When one Storm official commented that "option C as a possibility isn't really a possibility," director of community services, Mark Coleman, said the township is struggling to see where the money will come from. He said Minden Hills is hopeful there will be provincial and federal

grant money announced soon but as yet there has been nothing. He indicated that the township is likely to borrow the money since it currently has no debt, although it is likely to incur some when it builds its \$2 million fire hall.

But there was also talk about a hike in user fees for associations, clubs and organizations that use the arena, or a special levy on tax bills for all Minden Hills taxpayers. There was also discussion of a community fundraising campaign.

Karen London coaches a county league team for the Storm. She has both boys and girls on her team. One of her complaints about the Minden arena is the dressing rooms. She said the girls really need a separate dressing room. Now, she says she has to hunt for alternatives, such as "trying to stuff the girls in the ref's room."

Coleman said the task force had toured the Ennismore Arena and likes that they have dual dressing rooms with a washroom between them. That means one washroom instead of two and an option of locking and closing off access from one of them.

He noted there are two significant sized dressing rooms at the S.G. Nesbitt Arena and the rest are small. He said it might make sense to have six fully functional dressing rooms.

He said the little rooms could be converted to storage or even a pro shop. Storm reps liked that idea and said skate

sharpening could be incorporated.

"The biggest challenge is trying to find someone to sharpen skates in Minden," one person commented.

Another said they would like all-year access to skating.

Others said the township could make revenue if Toronto teams came up for a week of hockey camp.

Diane Peacock is a timekeeper. She said she would prefer if teams could leave their dressing rooms and approach the benches from behind. She said if they come from under the stands there is less chance of public-player interaction when emotions are high.

"I understand we can't do a brand new facility," another person commented "but a bright, modern facility will be better for everything."

If council opts for the \$6.5 m option B, \$2 million will be spent on new change rooms, offices and a fitness addition.

Another \$1.2 million would be spent on an ice plant system. Arena flooring, boards and glass would get \$800,000 among the list of works.

Another meeting for the general public is scheduled for Oct. 3 at 7 p.m.

Anyone involved in the Storm who did not attend the meeting can still complete a survey until Oct. 11 at noon.

They are available on the township's website.

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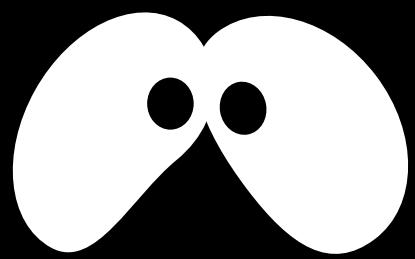
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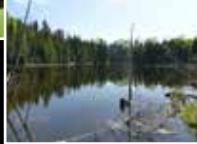
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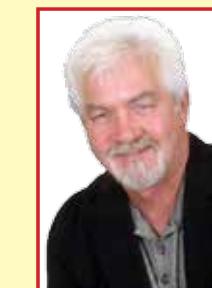


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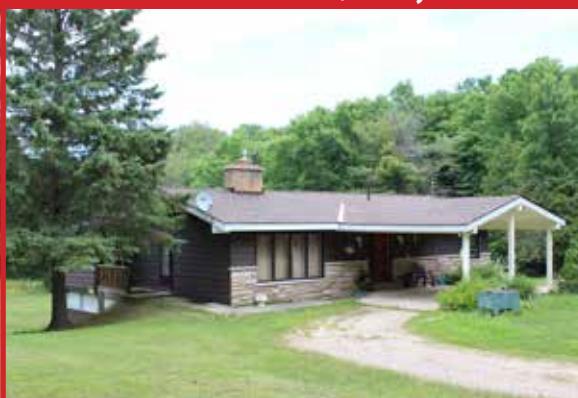
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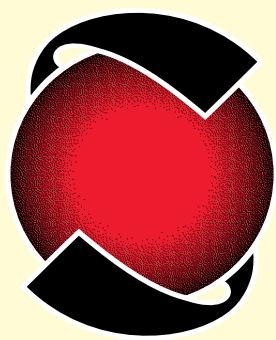
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# Highlander sports



## Highland Golf Series wraps up

It was Team Blairhampton versus Team Pinestone on the weekend, and Blairhampton came out on top. The Ryder-cup style tournament at the Pinestone Resort was the final stage of the Highland Golf Series, which began at the Pinestone Open in July, and was followed by the Blairhampton Open last month. One of the day's most impressive highlights came from the winning team's Hugh Nichol, who sunk a shot for eagle, 132 yards away from the flag, on the 14<sup>th</sup> hole. Most valuable player awards went to the winning team's Chase Thurston, James Allison, Bernie Nicholls and Devon Upton. (Photo by Alex Coop)

Left: The winners of the Highland Golf Series, representing team Blairhampton. From left, Bernie Upton, Chase Thurston, James Allison, Bernie Nicholls, Jim Brown, Neil Brogan, Hugh Nichol, Alex Smyth and Jim Smyth. Missing from photo, Devon Upton. Photo submitted.



Above left: Senior athlete Sage Christiano waits for a passing drill to start during a Tuesday afternoon football practice. Above right: Nolan Flood waits for the ball to get snapped before running a play. Left: Senior field hockey player Madison Allaire passes the ball into the middle of the field. Photos by Alex Coop.

## Hawks training

The Haliburton Highlands Secondary School football and field hockey teams were hard at work Tuesday afternoon, preparing for their season openers.

Coaches Raavo Laidla and Dan Marsden put the senior team through multiple drills, while not far away, Steve Smith led the girls' field hockey team through some passing exercises.

The field hockey team lost in the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations championship (OFSAA) after a thrilling 1-0 win at the Ontario Secondary School Athletics (COSSA) championship last October. (Alex Coop)



# Fall car care

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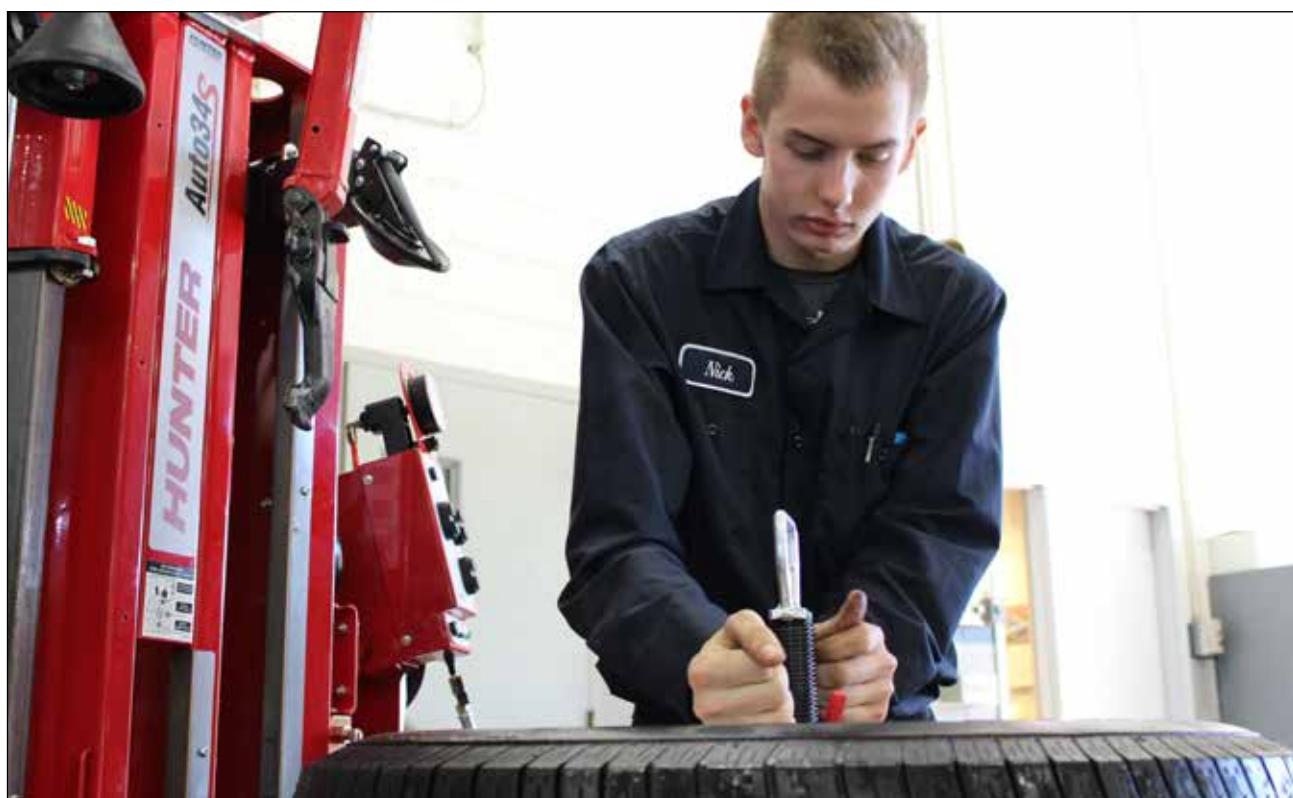
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Curry Motors apprentice Nick Thompson removes a tire from a rim. Photo by Mark Arike.

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Automotive service technician Cory Ostrom of Minden Subaru prepares to remove a front tire on this Subaru so that he can check the brake pads. Brakes are also an important part of preparing your vehicle for winter. Photo by Lisa Gervais



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Left: Minden resident Micheon Hutchings shows off her Terry Fox socks minutes before the run. Top: Committee member Dana Manning talks to participants moments before the run. Above: Cole Vond, Emily Tetzlaff and Holly Tetzlaff of Trent University travelled to Haliburton to participate in the run with family and friends. Photos by Alex Coop.

## Running and walking to fulfill Fox's legacy

By Alex Coop

Between Haliburton and Minden, more than \$16,800 was raised this year for cancer research. On Sunday, residents showed up in droves to support the 36th annual Terry Fox Run.

"Here in Minden, we have a lot to shout out about," said committee chair and Lochlin resident Diane Peacock, who told the 141 participants gathered at the Minden Community Centre Sunday morning, that Minden has always been a significant contributor to cancer research.

Ever since the Minden chapter opened in 1993, more than \$250,000 has been raised by local residents.

Upon hearing that grand total, the crowd of runners, walkers and bikers roared in applause.

Peacock told *The Highlander* after the run that the funds raised this year were down significantly from previous years, but noted that can happen after a big anniversary year.

"I have a saying that no matter what we raise, it is more money that the foundation

has for cancer research," she said.

Haliburton raised nearly \$5,000 this year, bringing its grand total to \$145,000.

Committee member for Haliburton, Jennifer Button, said there were many highlights from Sunday's event that began in Head Lake Park, including a "high five station" that Haliburton Highlands OPP set up for the kid's run.

"We also had two women who showed up separately at the event, but have both been participating in the run since its first year 36 years ago," Button said.

The money raised across the world through the Terry Fox Run has led to some significant breakthroughs, the most recent one coming in 2015, when doctors discovered a way to make pancreatic cancer cells more vulnerable to cancer-killing viruses.

Pancreatic cancer kills approximately 4,400 Canadians every year. Only six per cent of people diagnosed with pancreatic cancer live longer than five years, according to the Terry Fox Research Institute.

# Highlander events



Left: MP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock Jamie Schmale, left, and Minden Hills Reeve Brent Devolin, during a moment of silence. Top right: Brian Moore, treasurer for the Minden Lions Club, pays tribute at the ceremony. Photos by Alex Coop.



## Honouring the fallen

The thick clouds hovering over the Minden Cemetery Sunday afternoon dissipated to let the sun shine brightly on a Decoration Day ceremony that honoured the 128 known veterans in the cemetery.

Local dignitaries, politicians and members of the public gathered together for the brief ceremony, where several people stepped up to the podium to pay tribute.

"I think of how fortunate I am to be in this space and time," said Padre Joan Cavanaugh of St. Paul's Anglican Church.

"I stand here as a female priest because we live in a country that honours all people ... and it's because of those who went to war for us." (Alex Coop)



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# Highlander events

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Top: After signing the guest book, Doris LaDorte shows off an old class photo with her in it. Right: Robin Woodcock holds up an old photo of herself that was taken during her days at the West Guilford School.  
Photos by Alex Coop.

## Blast from the past

Residents gathered at the West Guilford Community Centre Saturday afternoon to reminisce about the good old days at the West Guilford School with fellow alumni. Former students from as far back as 1936 showed up on Saturday to share their memories with the help of dozens of old photos that were placed on tables in the rec room.



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# Highlander events



Top: Volunteer James Alexander helps unload the trailer of shrubs. Left: The youngest volunteer of the day, William Brown. Above: Minden Hills Reeve Brent Devolin steers the wheel barrel. *Photos by Alex Coop.*

## Shoreline polish will protect riverbank

Volunteers braved the rain Saturday morning to help plant 400 shrubs along the Gull River shoreline in Minden.

The shoreline naturalization project, sponsored by the TD bank in Minden, focused its efforts to the shorelines north of the walking bridge.

Minden Hills community services director Mark Coleman

said the additional roots in the ground will help reinforce the banks during high water levels, and make it safer for people entering the water.

TD sponsored the event and rallied the volunteers, while the township was responsible for the site plan and materials. (Alex Coop)

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# Highlander events



**Haliburton County Folk Society  
CONCERT SERIES**

**2016  
2017**

**Betty & the Bobs**  
Saturday Sept 24, 2016 - 7:30pm  
Minden Hills Community Centre

Dance to R&B, country, blues, gospel,  
jazz & some whacky originals

Into the Blue Pizza  
& local craft beer  
will be available

**Buy now & save! Special series pass discount until Sept. 24**

Series tickets - Five concerts for \$110/person;  
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Individual tickets - \$25/person;  
\$20/person for HCFS members and students

Purchase online at [www.haliburtonfolk.com](http://www.haliburtonfolk.com)  
or pick up an order form from  
Halco Electronics/The Source in Haliburton, Organic Times in Minden

Above left: From left, James, Rosie and Richard Dupont. Above right: Haliburton's support group member Derek Rolfe. Right: Rosie Dupont, left, and Anna McNamara from Parkinson Canada. Photos by Alex Coop.



## Walking towards a solution

The Haliburton chapter of the Parkinson SuperWalk raised \$5,000 in 2016, and the final tally was celebrated Sunday morning at Head Lake Park.

Event organizer and long-time support group volunteer, Rosie Dupont, said the funds had been raised since July.

The Parkinson SuperWalk is the largest nationwide fundraising event for Parkinson Canada. According to SuperWalk's website, more than 10,000 across the country

participate in the event every year.

Since 1990, more than \$33 million has been raised for support services, research, advocacy and education towards Parkinson's.

Parkinson's is a progressive, degenerative brain disorder. Studies show that 25 people are diagnosed with Parkinson's disease every day. (Alex Coop)

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### Discovery Days: Nature in the 'Hood

**Don't miss the last two events  
in this year's series - coming up soon!**

**Sep. 24:**

**Logging History  
in Haliburton County**



**Oct. 1:**

**Meet Our Moose**



for more information on these events, or to register, go to [www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca](http://www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca)

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# Highlander classifieds

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## NOTICE



### NOTICE Council Meeting Location Change

Notice is hereby provided that the regularly scheduled Council Meeting for the Township of Algonquin Highlands to be held on Thursday, October 6, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. will be held at the **Stanhope Firefighters' Community Hall** located at 1095 North Shore Road.

**Angie Bird, A.M.C.T., CMM III**  
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Post a notice that you have a ride to offer OR that you're looking for a ride

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

STEVE and ROBYN'S Jack and Jill! October 1st, 2016. West Guilford Community Centre. Horseshoes at 3:00 pm. Dance at 8:30 pm. \$10. at the door. Contact Alex 705-286-2375

If grieving the death of a loved one has left you feeling lost and alone, we can help. "Journey Through Grief", a 10-week program with experienced, trained facilitators begins this fall. Safe and confidential. Call Shelley at SIRCH 705-457-1742 x25 to register.

## RETIREMENT

### PARTY DWIGHT THOMAS

Celebrating 42 years of serving the County of Haliburton as a Paramedic! Sept 24th, 7pm Minden Legion \$10 tickets at the door

## Classifieds

**\$8**

**705-457-2900**

## EVENTS

### Wilberforce Curling Club

#### Registration & BBQ

@ The Curling Club in Wilberforce

**September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 6:00 – 8:30 pm**

### OKTOBERFEST

#### Dinner, Dance & Silent Auction

**October 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Lloyd Watson Centre, Wilberforce**

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Posies Restaurant- Bancroft.  
Or Call: 613 339-9960 or  
705 447-2953

## EVENTS

# Halloween Bash



**Tickets  
\$25**

**Dinner and Dance - Saturday, October 29 - Haliburton Legion**

**Doors open at 5pm** **Dinner at 6pm** **Dancing starts at 7pm**

**Lots of prizes... games... silent auction items**

Everyone is welcome, wear a costume if you like!



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\$25**

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# Highlander classifieds

## EVENTS

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## EVENTS

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2016

Pinestone Resort & Conference Centre – 4252 Cty Rd 21 Highlands Grand Ballroom

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- This event is being organized by SPARC



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## EVENTS

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Sat. Sept. 24th. 9 a.m. – 1  
p.m. Fall Maplefest "All  
you can eat". Pancake/  
Sausage Brunch and  
Bake Sale. LOCHLIN  
UNITED CHURCH

HARVEST PORK  
ROAST DINNER Sat.  
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# Highlander classifieds

## EVENTS

HALIBURTON COUNTY FARMERS' MARKET: Haliburton at Head Lake Park, Tuesdays noon – 4 p.m. (May 17 – Oct 4). Carnarvon: Hwys 118 & 35 Fridays noon – 4 p.m. (June 17-Oct 7). Minden Saturdays in the municipal parking lot 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. (June 18 – Oct 8)

Every Monday Pickle Ball – Lloyd Watson Centre – 3:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.

EVERY TUESDAY. Royal Canadian Legion Branch 519, Coboconk Progressive euchre at 1:00pm. Cost is \$2 per person

EVERY TUESDAY. Euchre at West Guilford Community Center 7 p.m. For information, call 705-754-2464

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP open to anyone who has been diagnosed with or survived cancer. We meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month in the Ruth Parkes Room at the Haliburton Hospital from 1 – 3 p.m. Please contact Lynn Higgs Thompson 705-457-2941 for more information.

VON SMART exercise program for balance, strength and flexibility. Minden on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. in the Hyland Crest auditorium and in Haliburton on Thursdays at 1 p.m. at Echo Hills. For more info contact Judy Webb at 705-286-5098 or Carol Browne at 705-457-4551

AL-ANON - we care, are you troubled by someone's drinking? Meetings: Tuesday 7 – 8 p.m., St. Anthony's 27 Victoria Street, Haliburton. All welcome.

EVERY THURSDAY 7 – 9 p.m. Shout Sister Choir is welcoming new members at the Haliburton United Church shoutsisterchoir.ca

HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS Stroke Support Group meets the third Thursday of each month at the Fireside Lounge, Highland Crest, Minden 10 a.m. – noon. Contact Lois Rigney 705-286-1765

Alcoholics Anonymous - we care Meetings: Thursdays noon – 1 p.m., Sundays 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. St. Anthony's 27 Victoria Street, Haliburton. All welcome. 705-324-9900.

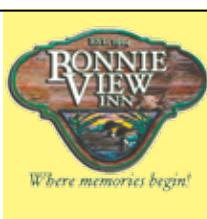
Every Tuesday and Thursday Squash House League - 7:30 p.m. Highlands Squash Club – beside A.J. LaRue Arena – all welcome info@mysquash.ca

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## OBITUARIES



### Leonard 'Len' Crawford

(Resident of Harcourt Park, Ontario)

CRAWFORD, Leonard Francis - World War II Veteran and faithful member of Royal Canadian Legion Branch #624 Wilberforce - peacefully at his residence in Harcourt Park on Monday, September 19, 2016 in his 93rd year. Beloved husband of the late Gladys (2009). Devoted father of Richard (Grace) of Markham, Charles (Nancy) of Harcourt Park, Wayne of Oshawa and Karen of Oshawa. Fondly remembered by his grandchildren Erin (Marlon), Marie, Joanne (Chad), Danny, Julie (Greg), Shaney and his great grandchildren Myles, Noah, Ethan, Adam, Liam, Zoey, Connor, Patrick and Evan. Survived by his brother Merton of Oshawa.

#### Visitation, Funeral Service & Reception

Friends are invited to call at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy #118, Haliburton, Ontario 705-457-9209 on Friday evening, September 23, 2016, from 7-9pm. Then again on Saturday morning September 24, 2016 from 10am until the time of Funeral Service in the Chapel at 11 a.m. Interment will take place at Mount Lawn Memorial Gardens Whitby on Monday, September 26, 2016 at 1pm. Expressions of sympathy donations may be made to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #624 and would be appreciated by the family.



[www.communityfuneralhomes.com](http://www.communityfuneralhomes.com)

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Haliburton Highlands Land Trust

### HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS LAND TRUST ADMINISTRATOR

This is a contract position  
16 hrs/wk., flexible schedule  
Ideal candidate:

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- Office, reception skills

Please e-mail resume to:  
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705-457-3700



### FOOD SERVICES MANAGER

Permanent, Full-Time

The Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) is currently seeking a full-time, permanent Food Services Manager to be accountable for the effective and efficient operation of all aspects of the Food Services department in accordance with standards, policies and practices of HHHS, and in compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements

The Food Services Manager will act as a professional role model, and be responsible for all phases of operational planning and expenditures, ordering, budgeting, costing and reporting, in addition to hiring, evaluating and overall managing of staff in the Food Services department.

The successful candidate must have graduated from a recognized program in Nutrition and Food Services Management; be a member in good standing with the Canadian Society of Nutrition Management and/or a Registered Dietitian; have a minimum of five (5) years management experience, preferably in a unionized environment; and be proficient with computers.

If you are interested in joining the HHHS team, please send resume no later than **October 5, 2017** to:

Human Resources  
Haliburton Highlands Health Services  
Box 115, Haliburton, Ontario, K0M 1S0  
[hr@hhhs.ca](mailto:hr@hhhs.ca)  
Fax: 705-457-2398

Haliburton Highlands Health Services thanks all applicants, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. If you are contacted by HHHS regarding a job opportunity or testing, please advise if you require accommodation for a disability. Information received will be addressed confidentially.

# Highlander classifieds

## THANK YOU

**Thank you for a magnificent 2015-2016 season**

### Our Sensational Sponsors:

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or donation options:

[www.razzamataz.ca](http://www.razzamataz.ca)

## Classifieds \$8

\$8 for 25 words.  
50 word maximum  
**705-457-2900**

### Household HAZARDOUS WASTE Disposal Days



**ACCEPTABLE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE MATERIALS:**

Latex and Oil Paints  
Finishing Products (varnish, glue, etc.)  
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Propane Tanks, Propane Cylinders  
Cleaners (bleach, oven cleaner, etc.)  
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Pesticides & Herbicides  
Pool & Photographic Chemicals



**UNACCEPTABLE WASTE CLASSES:**

Industrial Waste  
Needles/Sharps  
PCB's, Radioactives  
Pathological

**West Guilford Landfill Site**  
11903 Hwy 118, West Guilford

**Saturday September 24, 2016**  
9am - 3pm

**New Event**

Please see website or contact Municipal Office for more landfill information and updates.  
Recycling and transparent bags are mandatory.  
Landfill cards must be shown at the gate.  
Subject to change without notice

Municipality of Dysart et al  
705-457-1740  
[www.dysartetal.ca](http://www.dysartetal.ca)

Space provided through a partnership between industry and Ontario municipalities to support waste diversion programs.

## EVENTS

### FREE EVENTS!

**YPN NIGHT**  
Young Professionals Network



Providing the "20-30 something" demographic of Haliburton Highlands with opportunities and supports to live, work, and play here.

An initiative of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, the goal of this network is to provide the "20-30 something" demographic with opportunities and supports to **live, work, and play here**. We strengthen the fabric of the community by giving Young Professionals a voice – and opportunities to be successful. We aim to help young professionals meet their needs, utilize their strengths, and build upon their existing skills.

We welcome all young professionals to join the Young Professionals Network (YPN). **Tell us what you need and what you have to offer to the Haliburton Highlands!**

**Every last THURSDAY of the month**

Check Facebook page for upcoming events and locations. 

Phone: (705) 457-4700  
Email: [ypn@haliburtonchamber.com](mailto:ypn@haliburtonchamber.com)

Thank you to our supporters:



**TheHighlander**



## PREVIOUS WEEK'S ANSWERS

P	L	A	T	O	A	L	T	B	A	A
L	A	C	E	D	M	A	R	E	L	M
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9	5	1	3	4	8	2	6	7
7	4	3	1	6	2	9	5	8

# Highlander classifieds

## EVENTS

### The Blanket Exercise



Experiential History of Indigenous Peoples in Canada

Sunday, October 2 2016

St. Paul Church Hall  
19 Invergordon Ave. Minden, ON

12:00 Pot Pie Lunch \$10.00  
1:00 Part I Telling the Story  
2:00 Part II Talking Circle

Facilitated by Daisy Radigan D.Min.  
Liz Stone, Exec. Director of  
Niijkiwendidaa Anishnaabekwewag Services Circle,  
Peterborough

Lunch choice, Amanda 705-286-2541  
Beef or Turkey pot pie, salad, beverage, dessert  
<http://kairosblanketexercise.org/>

## Classifieds

# \$8

\$8 for 25 words,  
50 maximum.

705-457-2900

## SUDOKU

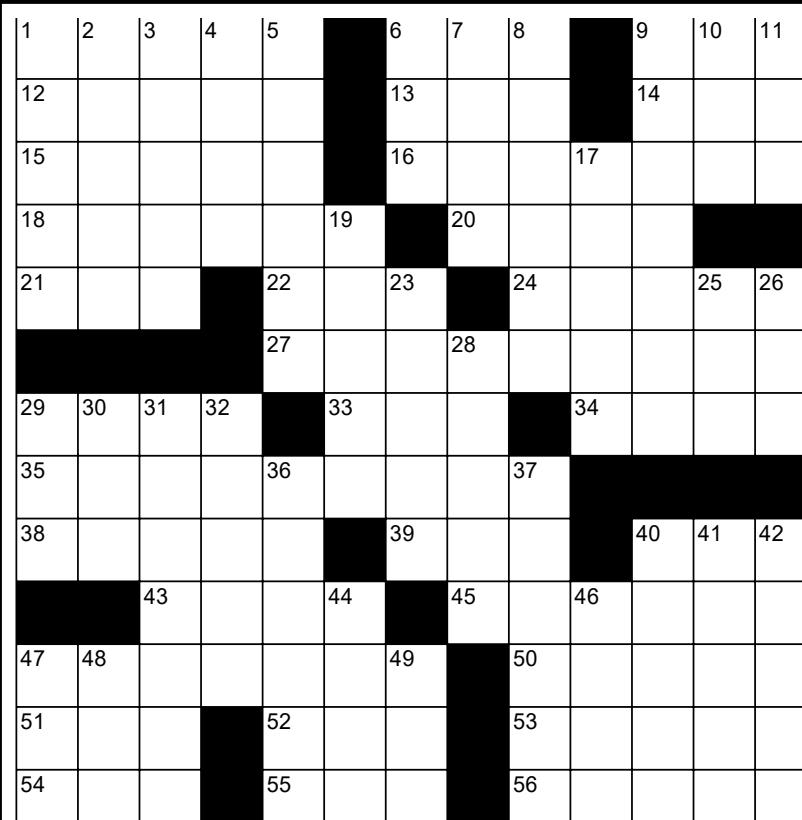
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### ACROSS

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- Investigative org.
- Lemon beverage
- Harry Potter's skill
- Chunk of eternity
- Solar body
- Wipe clean
- Landed properties
- Foreigners
- Spanish house
- L. Hubbard
- \_\_\_\_ a boy!
- Asian country
- Offered in response
- Drag
- GI's hangout

### DOWN

- Blur
- Monte \_\_\_\_
- One more time
- Go up
- Picturesque
- Service charge
- Pear type
- Unbroken
- Dancer Fred \_\_\_\_
- Payable
- Naval rank (abbr.)
- Campfire remains
- Portly
- Actress \_\_\_\_ Sarandon
- Formerly named
- Increase
- Forbidden items (hyph.)
- Possesses
- Horned viper
- Futile
- Flax product
- Not wavering
- Shudder
- Singer \_\_\_\_ Osmond
- Sends forth
- Pester
- Go by bus
- Identical
- Brewed drink
- Young's opposite
- Allow
- Sow
- Aide
- Depleted
- Neither's mate
- Bumped into
- Sly glance
- Flavorful seed
- Pedicure subject
- Newswoman \_\_\_\_ Shriver
- Chicago trains
- JFK's predecessor
- Leaves out
- Paid notices
- Nevertheless
- Witherspoon of "Just Like Heaven"

# What's on

## Multi-talented performer at Northern Lights

By Mark Arike

Wind instruments are Michele Jacot's specialty and she can play four of them including the clarinet, flute, piccolo and saxophone.

This Saturday, the Toronto native will perform at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion as part of the Haliburton Concert Series. The show starts at 7 p.m.

"The audiences enjoy the variety and the fact we bring in some well-known artists," said Lorraine Semple, chair and liaison.

Patrons also appreciate the opportunity to meet the artists after their performance.

Now in its 38th season, the series presents three annual concerts featuring international performers. It is a non-charitable organization run by nine volunteers.

Its secretary and a member attended one of Jacot's concerts and were blown away by her talent.

"They were just enthused about her," recalled Semple. "They said, 'We have to get her to come. She's just amazing.'"

Jacot has played with symphony orchestras and opera companies across Ontario, as well as in theatre pit orchestras including Mirvish Productions, the Shaw

Festival and in many chamber ensembles, according to her biography.

She is also a teacher who is in demand at elementary and post-secondary schools.

Jacot holds a bachelor of music in performance from the University of Toronto and a master of music in performance from Northwestern University in Chicago.

Sonya Slim will accompany Jacot on stage. Slim is known for her collaborative and solo work.

The season's first concert featured Few & Fewer in May. About 175 people were in attendance.

The series has a loyal following, including many local supporters.

"A lot of the members stay forever because they're so happy to have classical concerts at a reasonable price," she said.

They are able to keep the price low because of an annual grant from the Ontario Arts Council.

Tickets are \$60 (including HST) for all three concerts. Single tickets are still available for Jacot's show for \$30.

For more information call June Smith at 705-457-3272 or visit haliburtoncs.blogspot.ca.

## Betty and the Bobs are back

By Lisa Gervais

Betty and the Bobs are back this Saturday thanks to the Haliburton County Folk Society in conjunction with the Hike Haliburton Festival.

Anyone who likes to dance, or even just listen, will be thrilled by the broad range and stellar quality of music provided by this group of well-known independent artists who come together as friends to form Betty and the Bobs, the society said in a news release.

The concert will be held at the Minden Community Centre.

Individually, band members have played on almost every continent — at festivals, in pit band orchestras, for armed forces tours, at folk clubs, for Cajun dances, on radio shows and on television.

Individually they are also all a force in the Canadian music scene.

"Put them together and you have music magic — just ask anyone who was there last year," the release stated.

The venue will be set up to for both listeners and dancers.



Betty and the Bobs will be playing the Minden Community Centre this Saturday night. Submitted.

The music includes a bunch of old tunes the musicians grew up with in a variety of genres: country, blues, R&B, Beatles, gospel, old jazz, as well as some wacky but wonderful original songs.

The Betties are Soozi Schlanger, Suzie Vinnick and Katheirne Wheatley. The Bobs are David Woodhead, Wendell Ferguson, Rick Greenspoon and David Matheson.

Tickets are available online at

haliburtonfolk.com, Halco Electronics/The Source in Haliburton and The Organic Times in Minden. For more information call 705-754-FOLK or visit haliburtonfolk.com

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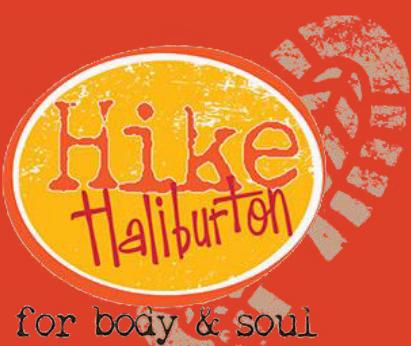
# What's on

## SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2016 EVENTS - sponsored by 2016 Hike Haliburton!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 for body & soul	 <i>14th Annual 2016 Hike Haliburton Sept. 22-25</i>			10th Annual Haliburton Highlands Radiothon for the HHHSF 6 am – 6 pm on Canoe FM and Moose FM  September 22 – 25 – 14th Annual Hike Haliburton Festival - <a href="http://hikehaliburton.com">hikehaliburton.com</a>	22	9a.m. – 1p.m. Fall Maplefest "All you can eat" Pancake/Sausage Brunch and Bake Sale. Lochlin United Church, 1050 Lochlin Road, off Gelert Road (County Road 1) Adults \$6.00 Children (12 & under) \$3.00 Preschool-free.
September 22 – 25 - 14th Annual Hike Haliburton Festival - <a href="http://hikehaliburton.com">hikehaliburton.com</a>	Dorset Recreation Centre 705-766-9968 – Tai Chi, Basketball, Pickleball  Haliburton Blood Donor Clinic Haliburton Legion 1:30-6:30pm **special need for donors** To book your appointment please visit <a href="http://www.blood.ca">www.blood.ca</a>	Dorset Recreation Centre 705-766-9968 – Library, Chess, Yoga, Drumming  EVERY TUESDAY. Euchre at West Guilford Community Centre 7:00 p.m. For information, call 705-754-2464	Dorset Recreation Centre 705-766-9968 – Drumming, Yoga, Library  Don't forget tomorrow's edition of <b>The Highlander</b>	EVERY THURSDAY 7 – 9 PM Shout Sister Choir is welcoming new members at the Haliburton United Church <a href="http://shoutsisterchoir.ca">shoutsisterchoir.ca</a>  Dorset Recreation Centre 705-766-9968 – Special presentation Heritage Trees	23	HALIBURTON COUNTY FARMERS' MARKET Carnarvon: Hwys 118 & 35 Fridays 12:00pm – 4:00pm
25	26	27	28	29	30	HALIBURTON COUNTY FARMERS' MARKET: Minden Saturdays in the municipal parking lot 10 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (June 18 – Oct 8)
FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL FOR AFRICA in support of The Haliburton Highlands Grannies at Abbey Gardens noon to 4 p.m. Harvest goodies, drumming circle and more.						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Thanksgiving Service 7 pm inside Irondale's heritage church. Join the community for the traditional service of thanks.						
9	10	11	12	13	14	15

### ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION EVENTS

<b>HALIBURTON BRANCH</b> Mondays: bridge at 1 p.m. Tuesdays: dart league starting at 7 p.m. Wednesdays: bid euchre 1 p.m. and bingo - doors open at 6 p.m., bingo starts at 7 p.m. - \$500 jackpot, \$1000 jackpot last Wednesday of the month. Thursdays: general meeting (second Thursday of the month starting at 7:30 p.m.) All members urged to attend and ladies auxiliary (last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.) Fridays: Cribbage 1 p.m., start. Meat draw, five draws, five prizes each	draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m. Tickets \$2 per draw ... Chester Howse, MC. Fun darts - 4:30 p.m onwards Saturdays: 50/50 draw - 4 p.m. tickets \$1 each from noon onwards Sundays: breakfast, second and fourth Sunday of the month, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$6 per person. Occasional volunteers are needed. Upcoming events: live entertainment featuring The Country Hot Flashes at the Haliburton Legion Club Room on Saturday Sept. 24 4-7 p.m.	Enjoy cabbage rolls prepared by the Ladies Auxiliary for only \$6. \$5 cover charge for non-members. The John Briggs 13th annual memorial open dart tournament 10 a.m. start Saturday Sept. 24 in the Main Hall. \$60 per team - \$1200 pay out. For more information or to pre-register by Sept. 21, contact Chris Biggs at (705) 457-1724 or email <a href="mailto:chrisbriggs_01@hotmail.com">chrisbriggs_01@hotmail.com</a>	Ladies darts, Wednesday, 1-4 p.m. Euchre, Thursday, 7 p.m. Fish/wings & chips, Friday, 12-2 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. Mixed darts, Friday 7:30 p.m. Big euchre, first Sunday of the month (except holidays), noon, \$12 Sports fan day, Sunday, 12-5 p.m. Lunch menu, Monday – Friday, 12-2 p.m. Liver lovers' special, Tuesday 12-2 p.m. (full menu also) Meat draws, Wednesday lunch time. Watch for local posters and listen to Canoe FM, and Moose FM, for	special events on Saturdays.
<b>WILBERFORCE BRANCH</b> Friday Pool 1:30 p.m. Spaghetti dinner 5-7 p.m. Jam session 7:30 p.m. Saturday Meat draw 2 p.m. – early bird 3 p.m. sharp Monday Bid euchre 7 p.m. beginners welcome! Wednesday Fun darts 7:30 p.m. Thursday Youth league 6:30-8:30 p.m.				

  
*14th Annual Hike Haliburton Sept. 22-25*

Over 75 Guided Hikes!


*Register [www.hikehaliburton.com](http://www.hikehaliburton.com)*

# What's on



Barrie Martin of Hike Haliburton and Dale Walker of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) ride in the back seat while Tammy LaRue of Minden Subaru and volunteer radiothon chairman Brian Daoust ride in the front. Of course, they're tuned to the Moose FM/Canoe FM Haliburton Highlands Health Radiothon which started Thursday. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

## 10th annual radiothon now underway

### Coincides with Hike Haliburton Festival

By Lisa Gervais

The Haliburton Highlands Health Radiothon started today (Thursday) on MooseFM and CanoeFM.

And for the first time in its 10-year history, it has a presenting sponsor in Minden Subaru.

While no one was willing to discuss the extent of the financial commitment with *The Highlander*, Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) executive director Dale Walker said it was "significant" and volunteer radiothon chairman Brian Daoust joked "when you don't start at zero, it's fantastic."

The two were on-hand at Minden Subaru recently along with company co-owner Tammy LaRue and Barrie Martin of Hike Haliburton, whose event also starts today.

Walker said Minden Subaru owners Tran and Tammy LaRue have always been supportive of Radiothon.

Tammy, who volunteers for hospice, said, "It's an important cause."

Money raised this year is going towards a bone densitometry machine and accompanying equipment.

Tammy said the project is a great recipient of proceeds from the two-day radiothon since getting the machine and equipment here means "people don't have to travel out of the county. Everybody benefits when we support the hospital foundation."

As for this year's radiothon, which runs from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22 and Friday, Sept. 23, Daoust said "every year we tweak it" but the format remains largely the same.

People are urged to tune in or listen online and phone in their pledges, challenges or auction bids.

Among this year's items are a one-week stay at a two-bedroom, two bathroom

house on the Braden River in Sarasota Fla., between Nov. 26 and Dec. 3, with airfares, use of a vehicle, kayaks and fishing boat, donated by Janis Parker and Ron Kozak. There are two recycled plastic rocking chairs donated by Cottage Country Log Cabin Trading Company Ltd. And, there is a handcrafted wood loon sculpture from Terry Adair at Twisted Pine Studio.

"It's a long two days being on the air from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. but it's always worth it when you see the community come together for such a great cause," said Rick Lowes, an announcer at 93.5 MooseFM, said this week that,

And, general manager of Canoe FM, Roxanne Casey said, "We're happy to be part of it. The hospital is important to everyone in the community. No one is going to get by without that facility in one way, shape or form." She added that the radiothon is also a lot of fun.

The radiothon headquarters is the Haliburton hospital. Lunch will be available both days from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Subaru will have some cars on display and two Hike Haliburton events are being held. The 'fitting activity into a busy life' hike starts noon Thursday, with staff members Kimberley Hicks and Steve Pogue taking the public on a 1 km walk. On Friday, it's 'a hike for health' from 10 a.m., with a two-hour, 5 km, walk with Sue Shikaze and Rosie Kadwell.

Martin said he was delighted that Hike Haliburton and the Haliburton Highlands Health Radiothon are on the same busy weekend in the county. He said the objective is "to embrace everything happening in the community (this) weekend."

More than 2,000 people are expected to take part in Hike Haliburton. In addition to more than 80 hikes, there are arts, culture, heritage and foodie offerings.

It will all culminate in the county's biggest ever picnic event in Head Lake Park this Sunday, where there will be local food vendors, craft beer and live entertainment.

